

State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0096
(916) 319-2094
Fax: (916) 319-2162
Willie Guerrero
Chief Consultant
Patricia L. Hawkins
Committee Secretary

Assembly
California Legislature
Elections, Reapportionment and
Constitutional Amendments Committee
John Longville, Chair
Assemblymember, Sixty-Second District

Members:
Roy Ashburn, Vice Chair
Sam Aanestad
Bill Campbell
Tony Cardenas
Dennis Cardoza
Lynn Daucher
Marco A. Firebaugh
Jerome Horton
Christine Kahoe
Bill Leonard
George Nakano
Jenny Oropeza
Kevin Shelley
Juan Vargas

**JOINT HEARING
ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS, REAPPORTIONMENT AND
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS COMMITTEE
AND
SENATE ELECTIONS AND REAPPORTIONMENT COMMITTEE**

**TRANSCRIPT OF
PUBLIC HEARING ON REDISTRICTING
PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED REDISTRICTING PLANS
SEPTEMBER 5, 2001**

**HEARING AT THE STATE CAPITOL
WITH INTERACTIVE TESTIMONY FROM
LOS ANGELES, SAN BERNARDINO, SAN DIEGO
AND SANTA ANA**

PLEASE NOTE:

The following transcript was prepared by certified shorthand reporters. The Assembly Committee has corrected transcription errors that altered the substance of statements made by Assembly Committee members. Other errors that do not interfere with understanding the substance of statements have not been corrected.

The Committee invites individuals and organizations who made presentations at the hearing to advise it immediately if there are any errors in transcription that alter the substance of their testimony.

00292

1 JOINT HEARING
2 ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS, REAPPORTIONMENT AND CONSTITUTIONAL
3 AMENDMENTS COMMITTEE
4 AND
5 SENATE ELECTIONS AND REAPPORTIONMENT COMMITTEE

6 ---oOo---

7

8 oOo--

9 TRANSCRIPT OF
PUBLIC HEARING ON REDISTRICTING
10 PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED REDISTRICTING PLANS

SEPTEMBER 5, 2001

11 --oOo--

12 Volume II

Pages 292-626

13

14 HEARING AT THE STATE CAPITOL

WITH INTERACTIVE TESTIMONY

15 FOURTH FLOOR, ROOM 4202

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814

16

17

18

19 REPORTED BY: LEIGH ANN KNUDSON, RPR, CSR 7607

(01-110073)

20 WENDY E. ARLEN, RMR, CRR, CSR 4355

1 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

2 WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2001; 9:19 A.M.

3 --oOo--

4 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Ladies and gentlemen,
5 we are going to start this hearing. This being an
6 informational hearing, we don't actually require a
7 quorum officially to begin. Let me note that the court
8 stenographer is taking down all comments. The court
9 reporter is transcribing everything here so that all
10 members of the committee, as they go in and out, will
11 still be able to review the entire record and all
12 information that we receive.

13 I'm John Longville, Chair of the Assembly
14 Committee on Elections, Reapportionment and
15 Constitutional Amendments. And as I have mentioned to
16 many of you before, the misinformation about this
17 subject is, I think, typified by the fact that our
18 committee is misnamed. What we do is redistricting,
19 which is drawing new lines. Reapportionment is the
20 process of reallocating how many Congressional seats
21 each state receives. And so our committee, and the
22 Senate committee, which is called the Senate Committee
23 on Elections and Reapportionment, both are technically
24 misnamed. We should be called Committees on
25 Redistricting rather than Reapportionment. So, I

1 mention that so if there are any witnesses who are
2 perhaps not used to public speaking and feel a little
3 ill at ease getting up, don't be embarrassed, we screwed
4 up even making our committee name. So, don't worry
5 about it. Don't be at all awkward.

6 We look forward to taking any testimony that
7 people may have to offer. Yesterday, at the beginning
8 of this hearing, I read a long statement giving all the
9 details and background. I'm going to kind of just hit a
10 couple of the highlights of that on the assumption that
11 most people who are in this proceedings are already
12 pretty well familiar with what the main subject matter
13 is. This is the second of two days of interactive
14 hearings. Yesterday we covered Northern and Central
15 California. Today we're focusing on Southern
16 California, and the -- there are numerous locations
17 throughout the state hooked up through the good services
18 of our community college system in California, which has
19 made facilities available in many cities where people
20 can both watch the hearing this morning, and then in the
21 afternoon session, when we will make it two-way, people
22 will be able to testify from different locations around
23 the state. And we -- of course, we will be able to see
24 them here, and they will be able to see us
25 simultaneously.

1 The purpose of these is to get additional input
2 as we finish up the process of drawing new lines for the
3 California State Legislature, both Assembly and Senate,
4 for California's Congressional delegation, which will be
5 53 seats in the House of Representatives after the next
6 election, and for the four-member State Board of
7 Equalization. Lines for these have been drawn and
8 posted on our website, which may be -- it may be that
9 our tech folks can even put the website on the screen.
10 I'm not certain of that. I'll mention it and if they
11 are able to, perhaps they can put the website on the
12 screen where people that -- even at their homes, can
13 actually hook up and look at the maps that have been
14 drawn.

15 We have had eight days of hearings for the
16 Assembly and five additional days of hearings by the
17 Senate prior to drawing these lines. So, the purpose of
18 the hearing today and yesterday is to try and get
19 additional information that either we missed during
20 those hearings held all over the state, or that is
21 offered in reaction to the specific suggested lines that
22 you have before you.

23 And with that, let me note that people can
24 still make comments, even if you're not at the hearing,
25 even if you're not at one of the remote locations. And

00296

1 I would urge that you use e-mail for speed, e-mail
2 addresses. If you want to comment on the Assembly
3 lines, or the Board of Equalization lines, send them to
4 my e-mail address, John dot Longville at ASM dot CA dot
5 GOV. And if you want to send comments on the Senate
6 lines or the Congressional lines, send them to Darren,
7 that's D-A-R-R-E-N, dot Chesin, that is C-H-E-S-I-N,
8 at ASM dot CA dot GOV. And we'll give those e-mail
9 addresses again later, as well as I'll throw out a --
10 perhaps a fax number or a mailing address, as well. So,
11 I'll give people an opportunity to get paper before
12 repeating those.

13 With that, we'll start with our first comments
14 and -- in just a moment. Let me just double-check if
15 Assemblymember Ashburn, our vice chair of the committee,
16 would care to perhaps add anything that I might have
17 missed?

18 ASSEMBLYMEMBER ASHBURN: Well, thank you,
19 Mr. Chairman.

20 Good morning, and I want to commend those who
21 have participated in the process. Yesterday a large
22 number of citizens participated on the sites, and the
23 technology is remarkable which allows us to hold these
24 hearings, and the citizen participation is outstanding,
25 and I look forward to another day of active citizen

00297

1 involvement in the process.

2 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
3 Mr. Vice Chair.

4 And let me ask Assemblymember Jerome Horton,
5 who is also a member of the committee, if he wished to
6 add anything?

7 ASSEMBLYMEMBER HORTON: I, too, want to just
8 join in my appreciation to the Chair, Mr. Longville has
9 done an excellent job, and the committee members, for
10 traveling throughout the state of California with
11 efforts to hear the -- hear the input of individuals
12 throughout the community. And I want to encourage those
13 in the community to continue to participate. The
14 process is still ongoing, and your input and your
15 involvement is still extremely important to the
16 finalization of the final lines that will be drawn as a
17 result of your input. So, we certainly want to thank
18 you and encourage you to continue to participate in the
19 process.

20 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: And let me again note
21 that this morning's portion of the hearings we'll take
22 witnesses here in Sacramento, in the capitol where we
23 are meeting. This afternoon, starting at 1:00 o'clock,
24 when we reconvene, we will take testimony at the remote
25 locations, in Los Angeles, Santa Ana, San Diego and

1 San Bernardino.

2 And with that, we have the first -- the first
3 testimony I have is a member of the State Assembly,
4 Assemblymember Runner. Please go ahead.

5 ASSEMBLYMEMBER RUNNER: Thank you,
6 Mr. Chairman.

7 First of all, let me just say the plans -- many
8 of the plans that I've seen involved with both of the
9 Senate and the Assembly seem to do, I think, a very
10 important goal, and that is to keep the integrity of
11 cities. I think that is an important accomplishment,
12 and it is one to be commended.

13 I'm here this morning specifically to deal with
14 the Congressional plan and the City of Lancaster. In
15 the Congressional plan, the City of Lancaster, which
16 right now is in one whole Congressional seat, it is
17 actually split between the two. And so I have with me,
18 who I pulled off of vacation, the mayor of the City of
19 Lancaster, Mr. Frank Roberts, and -- who was vacationing
20 over in the June Lake area, who drove over last night to
21 take an opportunity to talk about how he believes this
22 particular redistricting within the Congressional plan,
23 splitting the City of Lancaster, is detrimental to the
24 citizens of the City of Lancaster.

25 So we'll be very brief and I'll just turn it

00299

1 over to him.

2 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Please proceed, Mayor.

3 We welcome you.

4 MAYOR ROBERTS: Thank you. Let me say I didn't
5 purposefully dress down for you today. I didn't have a
6 suit in June Lake where my summer home is located. Hi,
7 Roy.

8 ASSEMBLYMEMBER ASHBURN: You look comfortable.

9 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Please do not do so.
10 If I didn't have to, I'd have had mine off as well, and
11 I'm only envying you as you are sitting there.

12 MAYOR ROBERTS: Well, at City Hall, of course,
13 I can do this on Friday. We have a dress-down day. But
14 in front of you gentlemen, I don't feel real
15 comfortable.

16 But at any rate, I'm here. It started out with
17 a phone call from my city manager yesterday afternoon,
18 and he said, "Have you seen the Congressional
19 districting maps?" And I said, "No, I haven't." So he
20 gave me the e-mail address, and I tapped it out, and lo
21 and behold, I discovered that Lancaster, California was
22 split to the tune of 44 percent in District 25 and about
23 60-some-odd percent in District 21.

24 Now, I hold no malice against District 21, but
25 that's Bakersfield. District 25 takes in a portion of

00300

1 San Bernardino County all the way up to Inyo and Mono
2 Counties and every other place, and it's, of course,
3 presently served by Buck McKeon, and the other, of
4 course, is Bill Thomas, the 21st District.

5 The point of the matter is, as George
6 introduced it to you, I think a part of the information
7 that was given was to not split cities. We are
8 definitely split. If you look in the 21st District
9 records that I pulled off the Internet, you find that
10 Bakersfield is split by 82 percent and Lancaster is
11 split 55 percent, and then, of course, the remainder of
12 Los -- of San Luis Obispo County is split about 88
13 percent. That's not a problem except Lancaster is a
14 major city. The population of the city on the
15 southernmost area of this 21st District and 66,000
16 people will be in the 21st District, which, of course,
17 is a Bakersfield's alliance. And the problem with
18 Bakersfield for the Lancaster people, number one, is
19 that it's about an hour and a half, maybe two hours'
20 drive over there, and there is a mountain range in the
21 way. We have normally been associated more with
22 Los Angeles County.

23 And in tune with that, let me tell you about
24 some of the associations. I personally am the elected
25 representative for the 88 cities of the Los Angeles

00301

1 County region for the MTA. I'm the district director on
2 that MTA board. That, of course, is L.A. County, not
3 Bakersfield or not Kern County.

4 Also, our L.A. County library, with this split,
5 which happens to go right down Division, and, Roy, you
6 will be familiar with Division Street, that is where the
7 split occurs. That puts the L.A. County prison, which
8 we'd like to give to Bakersfield, but anyway, it would
9 be in your district, in Bakersfield District. It puts
10 the L.A. County library, it puts the L.A. County main
11 center for the City of Lancaster and all of the Antelope
12 Valley, it puts that in the district which is
13 Bakersfield, and puts most of the fire department
14 operations in that district.

15 I guess that isn't so bad. And I heard people
16 argue that, "Well, if you have two Congressional
17 representatives, maybe you are better off than one."
18 But there is another major problem with that.
19 Bakersfield doesn't really identify with the Antelope
20 Valley. Perhaps the only link we have with Bakersfield
21 is that the Bakersfield College comes over and offers
22 extension courses at our Antelope Valley College. But
23 other than that, we virtually have nothing in common
24 with Bakersfield. I mean, except the population basin
25 and the other things. Our main alliance is, and our

00302

1 operations involve Los Angeles County.

2 So, they have us split off in that way, where
3 the major bulk of the population is in, believe it or
4 not, the Bakersfield Districting 21. And the other
5 part, which is the agriculture, is linked up with Buck
6 McKeon's, which includes Inyo and Mono County and all up
7 the other side. It is a very interesting split to the
8 City of Lancaster, and I'm hoping to convince you to
9 talk to somebody to heal that split.

10 There is lots of other reasons about this
11 split. For example, the Assembly and the Senate
12 redistricting, which I also looked at last night
13 extensively before I jumped in the car to drive over,
14 there is no such split. I believe they, the
15 redistricting folks, listened and kept the City of
16 Palmdale, City of Lancaster together.

17 And there is another case for not splitting
18 Lancaster. Palmdale, Lancaster and, prior to this new
19 districting, Santa Clarita, were pretty close, tied
20 together. And I served the North County region
21 specifically on the Metropolitan Transit Authority as
22 the district director, which includes Burbank, Glendale,
23 Santa Clarita, Lancaster, Palmdale, goes all the way out
24 to Malibu, which is no big deal, and it goes to
25 Flintridge, La Canada. So that is my little district

00303

1 for the director of the MTA along with the 88 cities
2 that elected me to do that.

3 That is Los Angeles County based. We have very
4 little relationship in transportation notions, although
5 there is some tie-ins, of course, because Highway 58
6 goes over the top of the hill by Tehachapi. But the
7 point of the matter is, Lancaster and Palmdale and Santa
8 Clarita, that whole region, have been linked very
9 closely to the Los Angeles County operation. We are
10 L.A. County, north of L.A. County perhaps, but North Los
11 Angeles County. So this split is of deep concern to us.

12 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
13 Mayor. We appreciate it. Today is an informational
14 hearing. Starting tomorrow, the conference committee
15 will begin reviewing these, and so your comments will be
16 considered by them as the conferees go to work. And
17 thank you for taking the time to appear before us today.

18 MAYOR ROBERTS: I appreciate it. I want Roy
19 Ashburn to know that we don't have any malice towards
20 Bakersfield. We just don't believe we are identified
21 as well with you. Okay, Roy?

22 ASSEMBLYMEMBER ASHBURN: Mr. Chairman, I'm
23 actually surprised, because most people come here asking
24 to be a part of Bakersfield and associating with Kern
25 County, and normally for our weather and our scenery.

00304

1 So, I'm trying not to take offense.

2 MAYOR ROBERTS: Please don't, because I want to
3 get along with you very well. We want to get along
4 with all of our neighbors. The Antelope Valley is a
5 burgeoning region now. Population growth is, as you
6 know, running wild. But we just feel we ought to stay
7 with Los Angeles County.

8 ASSEMBLYMEMBER ASHBURN: I think you made your
9 points very well. Thank you very much, and it's great
10 to see you.

11 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Was there a question,
12 Mr. Horton?

13 ASSEMBLYMEMBER HORTON: Yeah, just a quick
14 question.

15 In your opinion, does the split impact Voters
16 Rights Act in any way?

17 MAYOR ROBERTS: Well, I haven't examined it to
18 that extent. I certainly will now and I'll get
19 information to you on the website regarding that. I
20 doubt that it directly is in violation of that except
21 that you are splitting a major city, a major population
22 center in an Antelope Valley region.

23 The Antelope Valley is a region. And it does
24 include part of East Kern, but only in terms of
25 operational, military, Edwards Air Force Base and that

00305

1 sort of thing. I can't see that there is any maybe
2 legal contingency, except that you have split a major
3 city. And if you look at the list of splits, we're the
4 one that is split, in terms of our overall population
5 and the percentage of split, that's most flagrant.

6 ASSEMBLYMEMBER HORTON: So yours is more of a
7 community-of-interest concern?

8 MAYOR ROBERTS: Absolutely.

9 ASSEMBLYMEMBER HORTON: Thank you very much,
10 sir.

11 MAYOR ROBERTS: Community and region of
12 interest, the Antelope Valley region, --

13 ASSEMBLYMEMBER HORTON: Thank you, sir.

14 MAYOR ROBERTS: -- which Bakersfield is not
15 strictly a part of.

16 Thank you.

17 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Okay. Let me just note
18 that I have additional members who are waiting to give
19 comments. I don't know -- I think that Ms. Jackson had
20 been next in line, I believe.

21 And thank you, Mayor, for coming and joining
22 us. Thank you, Mr. Runner, as well.

23 ASSEMBLYMEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,
24 Mr. Chairman and members.

25 With your indulgence, I would also like to have

00306

1 Supervisor Naomi Schwartz, who flew up here from
2 Santa Barbara, to speak as well.

3 Mr. Ashburn, you are a part-time constituent of
4 Supervisor Schwartz, in that you spend summer months in
5 Carpinteria, the beautiful coastal area which
6 Supervisor Schwartz is very proud to represent and is
7 also part of my district. So, we're delighted that
8 you're here, and I'm sure she would be delighted to
9 share with you some of the better restaurants in town in
10 case you've missed them, although given that you have
11 vacationed there for years, I suspect maybe you could
12 share with us some of your finds.

13 I represent the 35th Assembly District. That
14 district runs from the Gaviota Coast down through Goleta
15 and the University of California, Santa Barbara; the
16 City of Santa Barbara, Carpinteria, the City of Ventura,
17 little portions of Ojai and the City of Santa Paula.

18 I'm here to discuss with you concerns and
19 objections to the Senatorial districts that have
20 basically divided up the 35th District and the County of
21 Santa Barbara, as well. The focus of my remarks,
22 however, will be more generalized on what I think has
23 been a glaring omission or lack of consideration in this
24 entire process, and that is the value and the importance
25 of retaining coastal districts as clear, strong, vital

1 communities of interest to the state.

2 The district as presently constituted,
3 particularly the 19th Assembly seat, would take most of
4 my 35th Assembly seat and put it in with inland
5 Los Angeles County; Simi Valley, Moorpark and
6 Thousand Oaks. And while the issues of those
7 communities are certainly of concern and important, they
8 do not reflect communities of interest with the coast
9 and its unique issues.

10 I would like to address, if I could, just a
11 couple of the primary factors and themes, the economy
12 and the environment.

13 Now, the economy of the coast is unique. The
14 economy of the coast deals with tourism, the high-tech
15 industry and higher education, and the fishing industry.
16 These are unique to -- at least to our coast certainly
17 high-tech, but certainly the coast itself reflects the
18 fishing industry and the tourist industry of California.

19 The tourist industry is a 17-billion-dollar
20 industry to the state of California. It is the second
21 most significant industry in terms of dollars that this
22 state has. Second only in small measure to the
23 agricultural community. And of course we have coastal
24 agriculture in the 35th, in what was once the 18th
25 Senate district, which has now been eviscerated with

00308

1 this proposed plan, removes the coast of California from
2 Oxnard up through what was the 18th District; the coast
3 of San Luis Obispo County up to the Monterey County
4 line. That will no longer exist. And under the
5 proposal for the 19th District, in which my 35th
6 District will lie, it basically is subsumed in that
7 inland community.

8 When we talk about the economy, I mentioned
9 tourism. Our fisheries right now are under serious
10 attack. There is a real question about overfishing.
11 Those issues are now before a variety of different
12 organizations. We have marine sanctuaries along the
13 coast where we're trying to address the very, very
14 fragile ecosystem while at the same time being able to
15 protect our very, very important fishing industry.

16 We have, as I mentioned, coastal agriculture,
17 and we have issues that do not translate in other parts
18 of the state. They are coastal concerns. They are
19 disparate issues. And as I mentioned, although we
20 cannot minimize the issues of inland communities, they
21 are clearly not communities of interest for the coast.

22 And next, of course, is the question of the
23 environment. The coast of California, without a doubt,
24 is the environmental conscience of California. I cannot
25 stress that enough. It is the environmental conscience

00309

1 of this state. Issues that are particular and unique
2 and reflect communities of interest, particularly in my
3 district, are issues affecting offshore oil drilling.
4 And Supervisor Schwartz was one of the founders of the
5 movement to get oil out off the coast of California
6 after the oil spill in 1969, off the coast of
7 Santa Barbara, which was a day of death to our
8 community, to our coast, and to the people of
9 California.

10 The issue of offshore oil drilling is an issue
11 of great importance to my community, great importance to
12 the coast. Particularly now with the pressures that are
13 being inserted by the federal government to renew
14 offshore oil drilling, something that Californians have
15 said very, very clearly they do not support, and the
16 people of my community in particular, and the whole
17 coastline -- central coastline of California, adamantly
18 opposed to that. That issue, that concern, again, would
19 be marginalized and muffled if the 19th Senatorial
20 district is drawn in its current fashion. Again,
21 fishing, open space, watersheds. Very, very critical
22 issue here. Coastal nonpoint source pollution.

23 As an example of how this is a community-of-
24 interest issue, a focal point for the coast, in my first
25 term in this Legislature, when a water bond was being

00310

1 considered of 1.75 billion dollars, there was not a
2 dollar in that bond to deal with coastal nonpoint source
3 pollution, coastal runoff, which is causing tremendous
4 problems throughout the state in terms of polluted
5 waterways and oceanways. This was not even a factor
6 because it was an issue that was owned, if you will, by
7 inland communities, by the Central Coast, by the
8 Valley -- excuse me, by the Central Valley, by the
9 Delta.

10 With the leadership of central coast and
11 coastal communities, we were able to get 100 million
12 dollars -- actually, 90 million dollars into that bond
13 to deal with a particular issue affecting our coast:
14 this nonpoint source pollution issue. Without the voice
15 of the central coast involved in that, without coastal
16 voices involved in that, we would not have gotten one
17 dime for the people of California on a 1.8-billion-
18 dollar bond for this very, very significant and
19 important issue that affects coastal communities
20 throughout the state.

21 We have a fragile ecosystem that mandates a
22 particular focused energy and priority that coastal
23 communities address and live with on a daily basis. We
24 cannot muzzle or marginalize this coastal voice. We
25 must factor that in. We must deal with these issues as

00311

1 they are and not marginalize them or dismember
2 communities of interest.

3 And a final point, which is extremely
4 important, Mr. Horton raised it when we were talking
5 about questions of representation of minority
6 communities. Additionally important is the fact that by
7 taking Santa Maria and Oxnard out of the district, you
8 are separating significant Latino populations in
9 Santa Maria and Oxnard from significant Latino
10 populations in Santa Barbara and the city of
11 Santa Paula.

12 Again, the coast drives the economy of this
13 state, and it is important that we keep coastal
14 communities together as reflecting true communities of
15 interest and protect and prevent them from being
16 swallowed up by noncoastal communities where we do not
17 share the same communities of interest.

18 With that in mind, I am honored to introduce my
19 Senator, Jack O'Connell, who represents the endangered
20 18th Senatorial district. He will introduce my
21 friend -- my dear friend, my Supervisor, Naomi
22 Schwartz, who has a long history dealing with these
23 issues, as I mentioned.

24 And, Senator, thank you for being here, and
25 thank you for indulging me, members of the committee.

1 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you. And
2 welcome, Senator.

3 SENATOR O'CONNELL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
4 And I'll be very brief. An eloquent presentation by
5 Assemblymember Jackson as always. I heard her use the
6 word "eviscerate" with respect to our area. I've also
7 heard the term "obliterate" referenced, and I think
8 both, unfortunately, are correct.

9 There is a longstanding -- I go back at least
10 four decades in following the geographical and the
11 political, you know, arguments in this area and the
12 boundary lines. And there is a long-standing tradition
13 of keeping the tri-county area under one umbrella. That
14 being Ventura County, Santa Barbara County and San Luis
15 Obispo County.

16 In fact, this proposal with respect to the
17 State Senate does for the first time in my memory or
18 recollection not include a greater part of those
19 tri-county areas. They are important for the coastal
20 protection. We'll basically have one less coastal seat
21 in the coastal caucus should this proposal go through.

22 Also, there have been some recent discussions
23 between two of the counties for health care, health-care
24 authority. That now I think could potentially be in
25 jeopardy. There are transportation issues which

00313

1 definitely link this particular region which could be
2 jeopardized. Air quality issues. Assemblymember
3 Jackson talked about the fishing interests and some of
4 the other communities of interest in this area. And the
5 communities of interest along the coast, clearly that is
6 where the common thread should be not linked to areas in
7 eastern Ventura County trying to link to the coast.

8 Now, I know that there is going to be some
9 slight modifications to the proposals that were
10 introduced to all of us last week. This particular area
11 needs major surgery. This is unacceptable in our
12 particular area, and I really hope the committee can
13 step up to the plate, be creative and protect and
14 maintain the coastal Senate district so that those of
15 us -- 75 percent of Californians live within immediate
16 proximity to the coast. And to really further alienate
17 and disenfranchise a large number of the folks and
18 coastal issues like the offshore oil drilling, the
19 fishing industry, tourism along the coast is just not
20 sound public policy.

21 Naomi Schwartz has been a longtime member of
22 the Board of Supervisors in Santa Barbara County, former
23 chair of the California Coastal Commission, and came up
24 this morning to make a few comments representing the
25 County of Santa Barbara.

00314

1 Supervisor.

2 SUPERVISOR SCHWARTZ: Thank you,
3 Senator O'Connell. Thank you, Mr. Chair and members of
4 the committee. I appreciate very much the opportunity
5 to be here.

6 Just to underscore some of the comments that
7 have been made by Assemblymember Jackson and
8 Senator O'Connell, to let you know that yesterday I was
9 in a meeting of our Board of Supervisors and got a call
10 from Assemblymember Jackson who suggested that I come up
11 today. And as I evaluated whether that would be
12 effective or important or wise, most of the advice I got
13 was, "Well, it's a done deal, isn't it?" And I'm here
14 because I'm hoping that's not the case. But I want you
15 to know that in Santa Barbara County, people are in
16 shock. We could not believe the map that has been
17 unveiled that will impact our area.

18 Before serving on the Board of Supervisors, and
19 I am presently in my ninth year, I represented
20 Senator Gary K. Hart in our district. So, for 10 years
21 prior to Senator O'Connell's tenure, I represented the
22 18th Senate District in our district.

23 Now, some of you may recall that under the
24 reapportionment that was done with the Deukmejian
25 administration, the 18th Senate District included the

1 community of Malibu. It did so under a public
2 administration in acknowledgment of the efficacy of
3 coastal concerns, of the importance of keeping coastal
4 constituencies working together and of keeping coastal
5 issues integrated before the State Legislature. Think,
6 then, of the changes we have encountered since then.

7 I want you to be aware that in Santa Barbara
8 County we have with the county of Ventura, in the '80s,
9 formed a joint-powers agreement. All the coastal cities
10 of Santa Barbara County and Ventura County, the counties
11 of Santa Barbara and Ventura, have been working together
12 for many, many years to deal with issues of beach
13 erosion and nourishment. At a time when the State
14 Legislature is fostering and encouraging regional
15 government, I want you to know that we have been
16 collaborating regionally among coastal communities, and
17 we are very distressed to find that the Legislature is
18 suggesting a complete change of emphasis for our coastal
19 communities.

20 The Inland Valley, the Central Valley, is going
21 to experience significant growth and challenges during
22 this next decade. Their issues will be very, very
23 important for all of us in the state. Not only are we
24 concerned that the coastal issues will be subsumed under
25 this new reapportionment plan because of that challenge,

00316

1 but we believe that Central Valley representation should
2 be solid for those constituents, as well.

3 Assemblymember Jackson and Senator O'Connell
4 have mentioned a lot of the specific community-of-
5 interest issues that we share in the tri-counties, San
6 Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura Counties. I want
7 you to know as well that we in local government are
8 struggling with the jobs/housing balance issue that I
9 know you are very well aware of. Our people work in
10 one part of the county, they live in another.
11 Transportation challenges are critical. This map would
12 split our very county. The area to the north in
13 Santa Maria would be placed with the Senate district to
14 the north and east, and the rest of our county would
15 float to the east and south. So these work-force and
16 transportation issues would be even more difficult to
17 manage with that kind of a configuration.

18 It isn't only the Democrats of my constituency
19 that I'm representing to you today. I have, and I would
20 like to ask the sergeants to distribute to you, a letter
21 from Mayor Joe Centeno, the Republican mayor of Santa
22 Maria. He has asked me to bring this and deliver to you
23 this morning because, likewise, he and his constituents
24 are strongly, strongly opposed to what's been proposed
25 in this map.

00317

1 I would hope, as Senator O'Connell has
2 expressed, that where you may find in other areas you
3 need to make slight adjustments to satisfy diverse
4 interests in this reapportionment process, that you give
5 serious consideration to totally taking a new look at
6 what has occurred in the 18th Senate district.

7 Thank you very much.

8 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
9 We appreciate it. And let me just real quickly -- I'll
10 note, by the way, we will, of course, be providing the
11 transcripts of this testimony to all members. So, the
12 members of the Senate committee which produce the Senate
13 maps will be able to see those as well as all the
14 conferees.

15 If I can ask just for a moment if you were --
16 if you had any problems with the Assembly maps which we
17 drew? I would be curious to see if you had any problems
18 on that one.

19 ASSEMBLYMEMBER JACKSON: There really isn't.
20 In the scale of things, the problem is so minimal
21 that -- relative to the problem with the Senate district
22 that I don't think it's --

23 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: No problem.

24 ASSEMBLYMEMBER JACKSON: -- that it's worth
25 discussing.

00318

1 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much. I
2 appreciate it.

3 SUPERVISOR SCHWARTZ: Thank you very much.

4 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: And I have
5 Senator Betty Karnette, who I believe has a guest she
6 may have wanted to bring up. Please come forward. And
7 I will then be taking -- Let's see. I have Congressman
8 Sherman who is going to be coming shortly, as well.

9 Please go ahead, Senator. And thank you for
10 being here.

11 SENATOR KARNETTE: Good morning. I know this
12 is an exciting day for you. Is it on?

13 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: It is on.

14 SENATOR KARNETTE: I have testified and talked
15 to members of the committee. So, I personally am not
16 going to give you my opinions because you already know
17 them. But I do have two very good friends here who are
18 my constituents and who are very prominent people in the
19 City of Long Beach. And of course, everybody knows I
20 represent Long Beach. The mayor, Beverly O'Neill, and
21 Roy Hearrean, the chair of the Port Commissioners. I
22 would like to have them testify. I'm just here to
23 introduce them.

24 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: I'm not sure if the
25 microphone -- Is the microphone working finally?

00319

1 SENATOR KARNETTE: How about this one?

2 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: That is the problem.

3 SENATOR KARNETTE: For the record, I'm

4 Senator Betty Karnette, Senate District 27. And again I
5 would say thank you for letting us testify, and I'm very
6 happy to be here this morning, and I personally am not
7 going to state all of my ideas because I have stated
8 them before to the committee, and everybody I think has
9 heard from me many times. But I would like to introduce
10 two very important people from the City of Long Beach
11 and -- the mayor, Mayor Beverly O'Neill, and Roy
12 Hearrean, who's Port -- he is the chair of the Port
13 Commission of Long Beach Port. And I think they can
14 tell you more of what should be said than I. So I would
15 like to turn it over to the mayor and then Roy.

16 MAYOR O'NEILL: Thank you very much. Am I on?

17 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Is the little red light
18 lit there at the base?

19 MAYOR O'NEILL: Yes, it is. I'm a little
20 distance from it.

21 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Okay.

22 MAYOR O'NEILL: I'll try to come a little
23 closer.

24 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: If you can talk right
25 into that microphone. Thank you.

00320

1 MAYOR O'NEILL: Thank you.

2 Mr. Chair and members of the committee, I'm
3 Beverly O'Neill. I'm mayor of the City of Long Beach,
4 California.

5 There are many issues regarding redistricting
6 and reapportionment I would like to address that
7 Long Beach has been greatly affected by the current
8 plan. However, I'm going to be very brief because I
9 have one issue I would like to bring to you in the
10 Senate district and one in the Congressional district
11 and how to fix it.

12 I'm here this morning to express the City of
13 Long Beach's extreme concern about the proposed
14 boundaries for the 25th and 27th State Senatorial
15 district and the 37th and 45th Congressional districts.

16 As you know, the City of Long Beach is the
17 fifth largest city in the state, with one of the most
18 diverse ethnic and economic populations in the state.
19 We face a wide range of issues and have enjoyed great
20 leadership within the state and in our nation's capitol
21 in dealing with the challenges that we have faced as a
22 city.

23 As it currently stands, the state
24 apportionment -- reapportionment proposal, the port has
25 been moved to the 25th Senatorial district. Although we

00321

1 have the utmost confidence in the leadership provided by
2 the current member in the 25th, we believe it is
3 important to have the Port of Long Beach in the 27th
4 Senatorial district, which currently encompasses 67
5 percent of our city.

6 In the Congressional reapportionment proposal,
7 the Port has been placed in the 45th Congressional
8 district, which only represents 18 percent of Long
9 Beach. It is our strong belief that our port should be
10 under the jurisdiction of the 37th Congressional
11 district, which under the current proposal represents 80
12 percent of our city. We feel that the port should be
13 represented by the same representatives that represent
14 the majority of the City of Long Beach.

15 This community of interest is vital to our
16 city's economy and regional, statewide, national and
17 international identity.

18 Harbor commissioners are recommended by the
19 mayor, confirmed by the city council. We approve their
20 minutes. Our budgets are inextricably linked, and we
21 are one.

22 Additionally, the port is inseparably linked to
23 the 710 freeway and its stretch within the city. The
24 impacts of trade are felt directly by those who must
25 travel on the 710, and it's our hope that we can

00322

1 maintain the unity that we have had between the
2 Congressional, state and local elected officials in
3 addressing the 710 and the port issues.

4 We believe this unity is essential in
5 continuing to work together on the solutions to the
6 complex challenges faced by our city.

7 This request is a slight change to the proposed
8 plan and one that does not impact population numbers,
9 but maintains the Port of Long Beach representation with
10 the elected official that represents the majority of the
11 population of the city.

12 We feel that there are many issues that we
13 could bring forth in the redistricting and
14 reapportionment plan. However, this one would be just a
15 slight change, but it would be the most meaningful, to
16 maintain the port within the majority representation of
17 the City of Long Beach.

18 Thank you.

19 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
20 And go ahead, sir.

21 MR. HEARREAN: Okay. Mr. Chairman and
22 honorable -- Is it on?

23 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Yes, you are on.

24 MR. HEARREAN: -- and honorable members, I
25 would like to thank you first for taking time to listen

00323

1 to us this morning, and I will be very brief, and I will
2 be right to the point so that you can visualize what the
3 Port of Long Beach and the City of Long Beach would like
4 to have happen.

5 As a harbor commissioner of the Port of
6 Long Beach, I'm very concerned over the proposed
7 Congressional district and the proposed Senate district
8 for Long Beach and its port.

9 Long Beach is the fifth largest city in the
10 state, yet under the proposal it would not have any
11 representation for the city.

12 We believe common interest is extremely
13 important. It is not a Republican or a Democratic
14 issue. It is a fairness and a home-rule issue. I am a
15 Republican, but I called Congressman Rohrabacher about
16 dividing the city. He was very gracious and
17 sympathetic, and he said that he would support the City
18 of Long Beach taking back its port and giving it to
19 Juanita McDonald's district, which is the 37th District,
20 and this would keep our city and our port together.
21 He -- In order to keep the city and port together, we
22 believe that a water route could be established to --
23 that would keep a link -- a continuous link on the 45th
24 District such as in Avalon.

25 The proposed 25th District stretches from

00324

1 Inglewood to Long Beach to Palos Verdes. Yet Long Beach
2 represents a very small portion of the voters. The
3 proposed 27th district represents 70 percent of
4 Long Beach. The westerly line of the district south of
5 the 405 freeway is on the east side of the 710. If they
6 move the line over to the west side of the 710 and
7 continued down, we would have the Port of Long Beach end
8 in that district, which is the 27th. That would allow
9 the Port of Long Beach to be together with the Port of
10 Los Angeles.

11 These recommended changes would affect little
12 population. They would make the fifth largest city in
13 California feel that it has representation.

14 The Port of Long Beach is physically tied to
15 the 710 freeway, and it is important for our
16 representatives -- representative district to be -- to
17 be affected by the same issues.

18 In order for the committee to understand how
19 important this is, let me explain the dilemma. The 710
20 freeway, which is congested by truck traffic by both
21 ports, our reports indicate that vehicles will be going
22 at 17 miles an hour within two years. This is a major
23 impact in our area. The cost to improve the freeway is
24 4 billion dollars. Our port is working with the
25 Congressional representatives at this time to obtain

00325

1 funds from the federal government to help solve this
2 problem.

3 The entire state benefits from port trade. So
4 as you can see how important it is to work closely with
5 the representatives to achieve the goal. If our
6 representatives represent only the port, not the city,
7 and not the 710 freeway, are we all on the same page?
8 The success of the port is in your hands. Please
9 consider our proposal for the continued success of trade
10 in California.

11 Thank you very much.

12 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
13 and we will pass your comments along to both the members
14 of the Senate committee, which drew the Congressional
15 and Senate lines, and to the conferees who will be
16 determining what adjustments are made between now and
17 the end of session on September 14th, by which time
18 final plans must be passed.

19 Again, I have just asked, did you have any
20 problems with the Assembly lines in your area?

21 MR. HEARREAN: We did not have any -- just
22 Congressional and Senate.

23 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much. I
24 appreciate it.

25 MR. HEARREAN: Thank you very much for your

00326

1 time.

2 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: And let me double
3 check. Is Congressman Sherman in the room yet?

4 He is not in.

5 Let me see if Mr. Don Wilson, who is senior
6 field deputy, testifying for Congresswoman Diane Watson
7 from the 32nd Congressional district?

8 Please go ahead and come up, sir, and we will
9 take your testimony.

10 And the microphone is yours, sir. Go ahead and
11 identify yourself for the record.

12 MR. WILSON: Thank you.

13 Mr. Chairman Longville, members of the
14 committee, ladies and gentlemen. I'm Don Wilson, the
15 senior deputy for Congresswoman Diane Watson of the
16 32 -- 32nd Congressional district.

17 It is both an honor and a requisite opportunity
18 to provide compliments and recommendation for the public
19 input process of the hearings on the 2001 redistricting.
20 Previously I have attended three hearings as an
21 observer. I did not speak. But nevertheless, I was
22 impressed with what I observed. There appeared to be a
23 genuine commitment to the fiduciary reapportionment
24 mandate of Article 1, Section 2 of the 14th Amendment,
25 Article 1, Section 2 of the 15th Amendment of the United

1 States Constitution, and also the Voting Rights Act. In
2 addition, I have attended numerous meetings of the
3 African-American Community Advisory Committee on
4 Redistricting and numerous other committee community
5 meetings. Therefore, my observations are the
6 consequence of a broad-base consensus.

7 I'm addressing my concerns with respect to the
8 32nd -- 35th and 32nd Congressional districts in
9 general, but more specifically the 32nd Congressional
10 district.

11 The 32nd Congressional district represents a
12 highly significant community of interest: View Park,
13 Lamanda Park, Ladera Heights, Baldwin Hills, Windsor
14 Hills and Crenshaw. And this represents the largest
15 concentration of African-American wealth, possibly in
16 the country.

17 The African-American Community Advisory
18 Committee, who will be speaking before the -- whose
19 representative will be speaking before you later this
20 morning, in its July 31st, 2001 testimony stated, "We
21 are concerned that in the actual redrawing of district
22 lines that there not be a process that will result in
23 retrogression, and that there are good and valid reasons
24 to maintain the districts wherein we have representation
25 that is really" -- "readily," I'm sorry, "identified

00328

1 with our community of interest, 32nd, 35th and 32nd
2 Congressional districts."

3 That brings us to the immediate problem. The
4 proposed Congressional district -- the proposed
5 Congressional district on the website has generated a
6 high level of alarm and shock in the present 32nd
7 Congressional district. And there are some basic flaws
8 represented in the proposal. And to date we have
9 received expressed -- expressions ranging from outrage
10 to disgust. The most offensive aspect of the outrage is
11 the absolute rejection of the communities of interest
12 and the dismissal of the level playing field that the
13 proposal represents.

14 The most serious flaw is the deliberate assault
15 and gerrymandering of the communities of interest that
16 the proposed districts would represent. And this very
17 well could be a Section 2 violation. For example, it
18 has been called to your attention that for the most
19 part, the black migration from central Los Angeles is
20 westward, yet the boundaries of the proposed 32nd
21 Congressional district extend north and east into the
22 Silver Lake area. You will recognize the gerrymandered
23 finger that extends from the 32nd District into the
24 Silver Lake area. The political reality of the proposal
25 is -- the political reality of the proposal is

00329

1 unsatisfactory.

2 My colleague here, Mr. Adrian Dove, wants to
3 share some of the observations from me. So, that will
4 be the extent of my comments at this time.

5 Thank you very much for your attention.

6 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you, Mr. Wilson.

7 And, Mr. Dove, please proceed.

8 MR. DOVE: I brought some comments. They are
9 kind of long. So, if you will indulge me to summarize
10 them and make a briefer statement and leave the
11 comments.

12 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Mr. Dove, we would
13 welcome having the full text entered into the record and
14 you may hit the high points, and we would appreciate it.
15 Thank you.

16 MR. DOVE: Okay. We studied and restudied and
17 restudied the maps.

18 I guess I'll start with the 32nd Assembly
19 district -- well, actually, if I can back up for a bit
20 and start with the 9th, and say that our community
21 looked at the 9th District and concluded that it was
22 very satisfactory. We had conferred with the Hispanic
23 and the Asian community representatives, and we were all
24 in agreement. Nothing is perfect, but the adding of
25 Castro Valley to that district was -- was a wholesome,

00330

1 a healthy and a good -- and it retains its
2 competitiveness.

3 Jumping from there to the 37th District, again
4 by and large strong support and appreciation for the
5 work of the committee staff in putting that together.
6 There was some minor problems. We --

7 ASSEMBLYMEMBER FIREBAUGH: 37th Congressional?

8 MR. DOVE: 37th Congressional district, yeah.

9 And I'm speaking of the 9th Congressional. I know that
10 is probably with the 9th Assembly. I should have said
11 the 9th Congressional. The 9th Congressional in
12 Oakland, yeah.

13 And the 37th Congressional district, the only
14 minor problem was we support strongly the creation of
15 the 53rd Congressional district and -- but there is a
16 little toehold in the corner of that horseshoe that
17 reaches down into Lynwood and grabs a section of
18 African-American population that is needed for the 37th
19 District. We think that's in the nature of fine-tuning,
20 and we would be happy to submit in writing some comments
21 and suggestions that we have on that.

22 The 35th District, we are very happy with the
23 way the lines were drawn on that. In fact, some things
24 were done with the 35th, like with regard to Lennox, we
25 would like to see done on the -- Mr. Horton's district,

00331

1 the 51st. We'll come back to that.

2 And then finally on the 32nd District, we don't
3 have a problem as much as we have a challenge. And we
4 would like to propose that the area west -- east of
5 Western Avenue, which is around Los Feliz and Silver
6 Lake, adjacent to -- I'm not reading the notes -- but
7 Congressman Schiff's district, be shifted to that
8 district, and then the necessary adjustments made from
9 that to the Waxman district so that some of the
10 territory that has traditionally been in the 32nd could
11 remain in there.

12 And incidentally, we like the way the Assembly
13 plan had done that, because all those same areas that
14 didn't -- didn't get changed are in the 47th in the
15 Assembly plan. So -- In fact, if we can follow the
16 Assembly plan for the 47th, that line apply also to --
17 or it couldn't really follow it, but come as close as
18 possible, given the numbers as they work out. We have
19 done some working out of the numbers and are not
20 completely finished with that, but could come in a day
21 or two and get that back to you.

22 The -- And then now moving to the Assembly.
23 Oh, first off, get over the easy one, the Senate. We
24 didn't really have any problems. Some of the districts
25 looked kind of funny, the 25th and the 26th, but as we

00332

1 looked at them and saw that string going down to
2 Palos Verdes, it -- it is something that could be lived
3 with and do not feel that it would hinder our community.

4 The Assembly districts. Looking at the 9th
5 Assembly district in Sacramento, there is a community
6 called Meadowview, I think it is, that is on the south
7 of that, excellent community. Some of the things that
8 we are trying to work very hard on is to build
9 communities that are multi-racial and that all ethnicity
10 can play a part in. We call them urban sophisticated or
11 some people call them survival stew or all kinds of
12 names. But we think that those kinds of districts that
13 afford that kind of opportunity are excellent and
14 wherever we can do it. And this is a district, the 9th,
15 that has a possibility of doing it. By taking that out
16 of Sacramento, those city folk, and putting them in the
17 17th, spreading them down to the rural areas, all the
18 way to Stockton, Tracy, would be damaging, too, and it
19 would lose an opportunity. So, we make a comment on
20 that.

21 Moving ahead to District 16 in the City of --
22 well, City of Oakland is the biggest city there. We
23 applaud the Assembly committee staff's work on that and
24 the -- the lines that were drawn. We join with -- I
25 believe when we last talked with MALDEF and with Asian

00333

1 Pacific Legal Center, that we were all in agreement
2 generally with the lines of that area, also. And we
3 recognize that Oakland Hills and Berkeley Hills are more
4 compatible communities of interest, as are Oakland Flats
5 and Berkeley Flats and the other flats along there.

6 The four districts in the south. And I see
7 representatives from one of those districts and an
8 adjacent area here. The 47th District we thought -- in
9 fact, we held hearings and everyone agreed that -- well,
10 no, never everyone. A vast majority agreed that we
11 strongly support the way the lines are drawn in the 47th
12 District.

13 And the 48th District was a little problematic.
14 There was some concern and a possibility of -- it is 71
15 percent Hispanic, and it's maybe taking away from the
16 adjacent area where we can use some of that Hispanic
17 concentration to develop the adjacent Hispanic or,
18 really, Section 2 kind of a district we want to see
19 happen. And so it would serve two purposes. So, it
20 would serve two purposes. One, it would lower the
21 percentage closer to even among all the groups in that
22 cosmopolitan district of the 48th, and it would raise
23 the percentage in an adjacent district and help
24 strengthen the building of Section 2 Hispanic districts
25 which need to be added.

1 The Coliseum and the African-American Museum
2 are major landmarks, particularly the African-American
3 Museum, inside that district. In fact, the Assemblyman
4 from that district generally has their office somewhere
5 in that complex.

6 The 51st District we thought was generally --
7 we have strong support for the way it was drawn, and we
8 would urge two changes. And again, we are not
9 unanimously, there may be some differences in this, but
10 their opinion was to move the Willowbrook area, which
11 has the Charles Drew Medical Center and the only United
12 Negro College west of the Mississippi, into the 51st
13 District from out of the 52nd and move the entire City
14 of Gardena from the 52nd to the 51st. We have got a map
15 that reflects that attached.

16 Gardena from the 51st to the 52nd, and Drew
17 Medical/Willowbrook, and it's almost a complete wash if
18 we tweak it enough. And our other end of the 51st, and
19 this involves the 55th District, also, on the other end
20 of the 51st, we are proposing that the same treatment
21 that was used on the -- on the 35th Congressional
22 district, that that little section of Lennox, which is
23 60,000 people, approximately more than 80 percent
24 Hispanic, to move it from the 51st District into the --
25 into -- well, the two gentlemen talking -- into the

00335

1 53rd. And then from the 53rd, to balance that, to move
2 Lomita into the 55th. I think -- Everything that you
3 have touched requires a chain reaction. But we think it
4 could be solved if that -- and it would increase
5 Hispanic population in the 55th, decrease it in the
6 51st, and increase it in the 53rd.

7 Then the 52nd District. And this is the one
8 you want to hear because it is the last one. And the
9 52nd District, we were proposing that the Bellflower
10 be -- that never was in there, be dropped out. And that
11 the -- Well, there was debate on Paramount, but
12 Bellflower. And we wanted to trade that with the 55th
13 for the city of Carson. And the reason is that the 55th
14 ends up as a district that is carrying 17 percent black
15 under this current plan, and those are hard to find
16 people and desperately needed in order to secure some
17 kind of a balance in the 52nd.

18 So that if we were to trade Bellflower and
19 Carson -- We have not thought that through totally. We
20 did not get a chance to discuss it with
21 Assemblywoman Oropeza, but that is generally what we are
22 recommending, and the rest is all contained in our
23 statement.

24 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
25 Mr. Dove. I appreciate your taking the time to come

00336

1 here and appear before us here today.

2 I have another presentation that we will be --

3 Let me first double check. Has Congressman Sherman come
4 in yet? Is Congressman Brad Sherman in the room?

5 Okay. The next testimony I have will be from
6 the coalition. Let me just real quickly before I do
7 that, however, note that I had accommodated several
8 individual members who had constituents from within
9 their district who had come up to testify, and I have
10 one person I see sitting here. I'm not sure if you'd
11 come in to testify, but if he is, I better accommodate
12 because it's a constituent of mine, Rialto Unified
13 School District board member Chuck Skaggs, who also has
14 another hat as fire chief of Norco. And I see there may
15 be some Norco people out there with him.

16 Let me ask, Mr. Skaggs, did you -- was someone
17 here to testify at the hearing or were you simply here
18 to observe the proceedings today?

19 MR. SKAGGS: We have two to testify.

20 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: If they just had brief
21 remarks, I can go ahead, and having done this for other
22 members, I certainly would be happy to accommodate them
23 at this time. And then let me tell Ms. Feng -- Where is
24 Kathy? There we go. You will be up next if you're all
25 set. Okay. You will be up immediately after this.

1 --oOo--

2 (The following pages were reported by
3 Wendy E. Arlen, CSR.)

4 --oOo--

5 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Just go ahead and
6 identify yourselves for the record and you have
7 microphone.

8 MR. HALL: Yes, before I identify myself, I'd
9 also like to point out that Chuck Skaggs is the interim
10 city manager for the City of Norco.

11 MR. SKAGGS: Another hat.

12 MR. HALL: That's three that he wears.

13 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: I'm not sure that's a
14 move up, but you talked him into it.

15 MR. HALL: My name is Frank Hall, I'm
16 councilman in the City of Norco and our situation is
17 rather simple. So we will try not to take too much of
18 your time, Mr. Chairman and committee members.

19 I wanted to point out that yesterday, and there
20 is a reason for this, yesterday I spent my morning
21 working with our CTAP committee, which is a
22 transportation arm of the plan that's underway,
23 Riverside County integrated plan, the afternoon with the
24 Riverside County Council of Governments which I'm
25 chairman of handling business there, and I point this

1 out because Norco is an integral part of the community
2 of cities that make up western Riverside County.

3 What's being proposed for the 71st district is
4 a district that would be predominantly populated in
5 Orange County and just reach one finger northerly to
6 take in Corona and Norco in Riverside County. It pulls
7 us away from the rest of the cities that we're working
8 with on a daily basis to address the tremendous growth,
9 what we expect to happen in Riverside County. Riverside
10 County is projected to double in population in the next
11 20 years, and we have a number of problems.

12 We've been well represented in the last several
13 years by Assemblyman Rod Pacheco, and we feel that with
14 representation in Orange County that we will just become
15 stepchild. If you look at the borders, your border
16 between Orange County and L.A. County, the communities
17 run into one another. You don't know whether you're in
18 Norwalk or whether you're in Westminster.

19 When you go out through the Santa Ana Canyon,
20 the infamous 91 freeway that I'm sure you've heard
21 about, you're passing through the Santa Ana Mountains,
22 so you have not only a political boundary between the
23 two counties, but you have a physical boundary; and by
24 breaching both the physical boundary and the political
25 boundary to pull Corona and Norco into a district that

1 is dominated by Orange County does not suit or meet the
2 needs of our particular communities.

3 We would have no effective representation in
4 the Assembly, again because with the 91 freeway we doubt
5 that an assemblyman would tackle that parking lot to
6 even come out and visit us, although that may be true.
7 So it's a real problem.

8 We have nothing in common with the predominant
9 Orange County portion, and interesting enough, the
10 Orange County portion swings around southerly to San
11 Juan Capistrano. There are areas there, Laguna Niguel,
12 Mission Viejo, Dana Point, that are not in this district
13 that more logically would fit in this district; and so I
14 would think that population could be picked up in that
15 area to offset the population that we have in Riverside
16 County.

17 Since the district boundaries have come out in
18 the newspaper, I've had several citizens tell me they
19 don't -- they just don't understand the logic in it, and
20 they feel that it's gerrymandering of probably the
21 worst. So we would ask you to please reconsider, please
22 look at the boundaries again from the logical
23 standpoint, from the topographic, the political
24 boundaries and allow to us remain in a district that is
25 predominantly Riverside County.

1 As you know, Riverside County, San Bernardino
2 County operate closely together. We're combined and
3 known as the Inland Empire. That's fine. We do not
4 have that commonality with Orange County and L.A.
5 County.

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
8 Actually, I think some of us do have some familiarity
9 with the district. In fact, let me ask you, do you
10 still use the same city hall in Norco that you had in
11 1972 that was dedicated in '72? I attended the
12 dedication of your 1972 city hall, and that really tells
13 you how old I'm getting to be.

14 MR. PERATA: '72, it's brand new.

15 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: That's right. Why are
16 they not using it any more?

17 MS. CARMICHAEL: You're sure you're not saying
18 '92.

19 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: No, '72. 1972. Almost
20 three years ago. The dedication. It had a horse trough
21 in front of it.

22 MS. CARMICHAEL: It's our library now.

23 MR. HALL: We now share a building with the
24 Corona Norco School District.

25 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Good to have well-read

1 horses. In any event, thank you very much for your
2 testimony. We appreciate it. Did you wish to amplify?

3 MS. CAMPBELL: Yes, I would. I let Frank do my
4 part and mine is just a little bit different.

5 My name is Barbara Carmichael. I'm a
6 councilwoman for City of Norco, have been for the past
7 12 years. In the past week I have spoken with many of
8 my constituents along with different constituents I've
9 talked to and helped over the years because we all work
10 together and I can always try to help them to where they
11 need to go. I've talked to people in Temecula and Paris
12 and Mira Loma, and everyone I have spoken with or who
13 has spoken with me have felt that the assemblymember
14 that we have should remain in Riverside County.

15 I feel that we do have some conflicts with
16 Orange County. Yes, they are going to be our sister
17 county because we're connected to them, and, yes, we
18 should work together. I think everybody should work
19 together with their sister cities and counties, but we
20 do have conflicts with the 91 freeway.

21 I know everybody probably keeps hearing about
22 all the 91 freeway and the lawsuits and everything, and
23 we do have conflicts there. We also have conflicts I
24 think that an assemblyman might have with the water that
25 runs from our river from Riverside County into Orange

1 County.

2 I think our constituents will have conflicts
3 with accessibility. More than likely the assemblyman,
4 if it comes from Orange County, will probably have their
5 office in Orange County, which will probably hardly ever
6 be able to get there from the 91 freeway.

7 I work very closely with seniors in my
8 community and a lot of low income seniors. A lot of
9 programs that are in Riverside County are Riverside
10 County programs. You know, Orange County has their
11 Orange County programs, Riverside has their Riverside
12 County programs. If there is a problem, I think it's
13 much easier for an assemblyman who is in the Riverside
14 County area to know the other Riverside people and be
15 able to handle the problem in a timely manner. With
16 some of the seniors we know that it needs to be a timely
17 manner.

18 I also work very closely, and I'm going to say
19 this from a personal point of view because I've been
20 going through this personally, I also work with kids in
21 my area, and I work with a national organization of 4H,
22 and I think probably most of you know 4H, and 4H is
23 in -- there is a group in Orange County 4H and there's
24 Riverside County 4H, San Diego 4H and there's San
25 Bernardino 4H. They are in those counties. You're

1 talking thousands of children now.

2 In the past couple years we've had some real
3 problems. I started off with our county supervisor.
4 From that it has gone to all five of the county
5 supervisors. It's been on their agenda three times in
6 the last year. Our assemblyman has been working on it
7 with us. I just had a meeting last month. And if we
8 have an assemblyman from outside the area, I don't think
9 that person could work as fast or as rapidly as somebody
10 that's in the area. And we're talking now thousands of
11 children in this program and we really do need to have
12 the help when we have these problems.

13 We have the natural, as Frank said, we have the
14 natural mountains, we also have the natural river that
15 divides us. I think that there will be an impact on the
16 voters' rights as even though, as the paper stated, that
17 Corona would be the largest city. It even stated in our
18 local paper that for somebody from Riverside to be
19 elected would almost be impossible because they would be
20 outvoted by the Orange County density.

21 We're all elected to do what's best for all of
22 our constituents and I really mean that. It's all of
23 our constituents. I don't care what party you're with,
24 they're all our constituents and we need to do what's
25 best for them.

1 I really beg you to look at this, not only with
2 what the residents should have in Riverside, but with
3 your hearts, and you'll know that Riverside residents
4 need to be represented by somebody from Riverside. I
5 think really that we would be better served if we were
6 in the 66th district because we are more compatible and
7 we'd be better served in that district. Thank you.

8 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much for
9 taking the time to come here today. Appreciate it.

10 MR. HALL: We might point out in the State
11 Senate district, even though the district stretches from
12 Palm Desert, which is east of Palm Springs, and swings
13 around and takes in Norco-Corona, at least that whole
14 district is within the Riverside County, and we can work
15 with that. We work with those people out in the desert
16 quite well.

17 MS. CARMICHAEL: If we were drawing the lines,
18 we probably wouldn't have drawn them exactly that way,
19 but at least it's in Riverside County.

20 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
21 Appreciate it.

22 Let double-check one more time to make sure
23 that Congressman Sherman had not arrived. I didn't see
24 him come in. Okay.

25 Miss Feng, if you would like to bring your

1 panel up, we would be happy to hear from them.

2 MS. FENG: Good morning, Chairman Longville. I
3 want to thank yourself as well as Chairman Perata and
4 all of the Senators and Assemblymembers who are gathered
5 here today for again giving us the opportunity to speak
6 before you about the redistricting proposals that the
7 Assembly and Senate have produced for Southern
8 California.

9 Before I begin, I did want to just point out
10 that we are going to have quite a few community members
11 who are going to be broadcasting from the satellite
12 sites that have been set up throughout Southern
13 California. So we wanted to also thank the staff of the
14 committee for making it possible to have people not have
15 to travel up to Sacramento to be able to voice their
16 local concerns and have a presence at those satellite
17 hearings.

18 Today I want to share with you the tremendous
19 significance that the redistricting process has had and
20 will have in the future for ensuring full participation
21 of the Asian Pacific American community.

22 In the last round of redistricting, we had very
23 few institutions that had the foresight and legal
24 expertise to become involved in the redistricting
25 process. Groups like the Asian Pacific American Legal

1 Center in Los Angeles with which I'm affiliated and the
2 APIA Health Forum and Asian Law Caucus in San Francisco
3 presented regional redistricting plans to the Senate and
4 Assembly 10 years ago. At that time we had no statewide
5 organization and yet we were still able to have some
6 impact in the 1990 redistricting process.

7 At APALC, the Asian Pacific American Legal
8 Center, we directed our efforts to two areas of concern
9 in Los Angeles. The first was the San Gabriel Valley
10 and the second was the South Bay area of Los Angeles.
11 Through our advocacy, both were configured to hold our
12 communities whole. The impact was the eventual election
13 of two Assemblymembers of Asian Pacific American
14 descent. One was George Nakano from the South Bay, 53rd
15 Assembly District in 1998 and the second was Judy Chu
16 from the 49th district in 2001.

17 I want to give this background about the 49th
18 because it's become a point of contention recently.
19 This area is of immeasurable importance to the Asian
20 Pacific American community. Because the Asian Pacific
21 American community has been moving to the San Gabriel
22 Valley since the 1970's, ever since the restrictive
23 covenants were challenged, and the City of Monterey Park
24 became the first in the nation, the first, to enact a
25 resolution to open the door for minorities that

1 challenged restrictive covenants.

2 In the 1990's, we focused on our efforts in
3 keeping the four San Gabriel Valley cities of Monterey
4 Park, Alhambra, Rosemead and San Gabriel together. They
5 formed the gateway for a new generation of Asian
6 American communities outside of the traditional enclave
7 of Chinatown, Filipinotowns and Little Tokyo-type of
8 enclaves. This area has grown to become one of the most
9 vibrant and densely populated Asian American communities
10 in the State of California. In fact, the City of
11 Monterey Park now has 61 percent API population.

12 You can see from the insert, it's probably the
13 last page of the color maps that you have, it's a black
14 and white map, you can see from that insert as well as
15 this map here of the Los Angeles and Orange County
16 regions how the APA community is uniquely concentrated
17 in this area.

18 If I could take a second just to point it out,
19 the areas where there are dense red is where there is a
20 highest concentration of Asian Pacific Americans. In
21 fact, where it gets to be this dark red, it's actually
22 50 percent or more Asian Pacific American, and this area
23 right area here is the 49th district where the Assembly
24 proposal has configured the 49th district. It centers
25 right on where you can see how densely populated the APA

1 population is, and certainly in the surrounding area
2 this is one of the uniquely dense communities where you
3 can draw a district where you can actually have an APA
4 population that can serve as an influence, a significant
5 proportion of the population.

6 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: I just want to note the
7 people who are watching from remote locations are not
8 going to be able to hear you because you are talking away from
9 the microphone. Although the court stenographer is getting
10 it down for the transcript, I'm concerned that I want to
11 make sure people in other locations can hear you as
12 well.

13 MS. FENG: All right. So that portion of Los
14 Angeles County that I had pointed out has a significant
15 density of Asian Pacific American population, and as I
16 had said before, it is uniquely an area where we can
17 draw a district where the APA population constitutes a
18 significant portion of the district.

19 I should point out that it's one of our four
20 districts where there is an Asian Pacific American
21 elected and, as such, it's particularly significant to
22 the community that we be able to see growth in that
23 district and be able to have it represent our APA
24 community.

25 10 years ago we worked in coalition with MALDEF

1 to configure the 49th Assembly District to include these
2 four cities into a configuration of the 49th that had
3 significant population for Latinos. A decade later, our
4 communities have grown side by side, Latinos and Asian
5 Americans, to elect an Asian American, Judy Chu, to
6 represent this district.

7 I say this only to provide historical context
8 for how important the San Gabriel Valley is as a
9 rallying point for our communities. Because of this
10 area's significance, community leaders and our API press
11 have been particularly concerned with its configuration
12 in this round of redistricting. The Assembly's recently
13 proposed map configuring the 49th district to move more
14 of the cities with high Asian Pacific American
15 populations, while keeping a strong Latino presence, has
16 been widely lauded in our community and amongst our
17 press. We commend the Senate and Assembly and urge you
18 to keep the proposed Assembly lines for the 49th
19 district.

20 However, we do ask that you revisit the Senate
21 and Congressional configurations which have carved this
22 west San Gabriel Valley area up into so many pieces as
23 to create a virtual glass ceiling for our community's
24 representation at these higher levels of government.
25 The Senate configuration currently carves up our

1 population into four different districts, the 21st, the
2 22nd, the 24th, and the 29th. The Congressional map
3 carves up the area into three districts, the 27th, 28th,
4 and 34th districts.

5 The Senate has done a commendable job of
6 respecting our community's integrity in other parts of
7 the State, and it is imperative that there be a
8 reconfiguration to reunite west San Gabriel Valley area
9 in the Senate and Congressional maps so this area not be
10 left out in the commendable work that they've been doing
11 in other areas.

12 Like the Assembly redistricting proposal in the
13 49th, the committee heard our concerns about the
14 dissection of our Los Angeles Chinatown, Koreatown and
15 Filipinotown. Your proposed small adjustments to the
16 lines currently constructing the 45th and 46th have made
17 a tremendous difference for the future political
18 empowerment of these communities and we thank you for
19 that.

20 As we came yesterday to you with a coalition of
21 African American, Latino and Asian Pacific American
22 interests, we come today in that same spirit of unity.
23 CAPAFR supports the configuration of the South Los
24 Angeles to reflect African American communities in the
25 47th, 48th, 51st, and 52nd Assembly Districts.

1 Adrian Dove spoke to you before about some
2 reconfiguration of districts that had been created
3 within the African American community to represent their
4 collective wisdom about how those districts should look,
5 and we have jointly come together around that
6 configuration and accepted the lines as they have
7 configured them.

8 We recognize the Latino community's explosive
9 population growth Los Angeles as well. There have been
10 many opportunities to enhance Latino voter growth,
11 including the 56th Assembly District. APALC and CAPAFR
12 support efforts to configure the 56th district in a
13 Section 2 Latino voting rights district. As well, we
14 also support changes in Orange County 68th district and
15 San Diego's 79th district to ensure that both the Asian
16 Pacific American and Latino communities are able to
17 achieve meaningful enfranchisement. And, again, as we
18 have been working on Northern California, in Southern
19 California these two areas we've also been able to reach
20 an agreement that that's how it should be reconfigured.

21 Nancy Yu will be talking about these proposed
22 changes in Orange County shortly. I'd just wanted to
23 say, like MALDEF and the African American Redistricting
24 Committee, we are committed to building districts that
25 represent each of our communities fairly without

1 sacrificing the voice of another.

2 While we, the Asian Pacific American community,
3 is 13 percent of the state's population, our
4 representation in the Assembly is far from full
5 potential. As you know, we only have four in the whole
6 State Legislature of 120 individuals, none in the
7 Senate. And so the Assembly's proposed configuration in
8 Southern California of the 45th and 46th districts and
9 especially the 49th will go a long way in ensuring our
10 equal representation for the future. Thank you so much.

11 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you, Ms. Feng. I
12 must commend you for the extraordinary job that CAPAFR
13 has done in providing assistance to us. We look at all
14 of the input we're getting from individuals and
15 organizations as being something that will help us to
16 hopefully produce better maps at the conclusion of this
17 entire process, and after sitting through the eight
18 hearings that I had in the time before we began drawing
19 maps as well as now the second day of these hearings,
20 there is no individual or organization that has come
21 forward with such an extraordinarily well done amount of
22 research and clear obvious efforts to reach out and work
23 out problems between different communities of interest
24 and make maps that work for everybody, and I want to
25 commend you for the extraordinary effort that you've put

1 into this. Recognizing that lawyers will see different
2 things, it's obvious you've done some extraordinary
3 work. We may not be able to obviously accommodate every
4 single thing, but greatly appreciate the work you've
5 done.

6 MS. FENG: Thank you, Chairman Longville.
7 Thank to both sides of the aisle as well as those
8 committees in the Assembly and the Senate. I want to
9 really appreciate Senator Perata. Thank you. I really
10 want to appreciate your taking the time to listen to us.
11 I commend your patience in sitting through so many
12 hearings and listening to so many people. It really has
13 been something that has galvanized our community in a
14 way that we haven't seen in other issues, especially
15 considering how esoteric it is.

16 So we do appreciate. In several parts of the
17 state we can tell that our voices have been heard and we
18 want to make sure that those districts that have been
19 created stay the same and are not whittled away. To the
20 extent that small changes can be made in some additional
21 districts, that's what we are presenting today.

22 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: I know Ms. Yu has
23 additional information. I also know Assemblymember
24 Nakano wanted to make a comment. Mr. Nakano, did you
25 want to wait until after Ms. Yu finishes or whichever is

1 your pleasure.

2 ASSEMBLYMEMBER NAKANO: I think given that
3 Ms. Feng had just made her statement, I think I'd like
4 to make some comments and perhaps a few questions.

5 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Please.

6 ASSEMBLYMEMBER NAKANO: Kathay, you mentioned
7 about we have only four members of the State Legislature
8 in the State of California. The Asian population, the
9 API population is 13 percent of the State of California,
10 and I want to make a point that if there were 13 percent
11 in the State Legislature, there would be 10
12 Assemblymembers and five State Senators of Asian descent
13 in the legislature.

14 There was a period of time when there was none
15 at all, and I believe that was during the '70's and the
16 '80's. Well, actually, till 1994 I think we didn't have
17 any at all. And, finally, we have four now, and one
18 particular area in the San Gabriel Valley where you have
19 significant increase in the Asian population and it
20 continues to increase at probably higher rate than the
21 Latino population, it is important to keep in mind that
22 that area gives -- we pay a lot of attention to the way
23 it is going to be, you know, drawn or redrawn because I
24 believe the map that was presented by the Assembly I
25 think reinforces the fact that attention needs to be

1 paid in terms of the Asian population that's increasing
2 in that particular area.

3 MS. FENG: Thank you, Senator Nakano.

4 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Ms. Yu, want to go
5 ahead at this time?

6 MS. YU: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of
7 the committee, for the opportunity to speak before you
8 this morning. My name is Nancy Yu, spell Y-u, and I am
9 a research analyst in the voting rights and
10 anti-discrimination unit at the Asian Pacific American
11 Legal Center of Southern California.

12 Yesterday, several community members and my
13 colleagues articulated the minor changes we would like
14 to see reflected in the Assembly drawing of Northern
15 California districts. Similarly, today I will present
16 CAPAFR's proposed changes to the Assembly's preliminary
17 lines in the Southern California region.

18 In the first round of hearings, CAPAFR
19 testified to the importance of uniting the communities
20 of Koreatown and Little Saigon in Orange County into one
21 Assembly District. We are pleased that the Assembly has
22 taken into consideration the cohesiveness of these two
23 ethnic, commercial, and residential centers in the draft
24 redistricting proposal.

25 We would, however, like to suggest that the

1 eastern boundary of Assembly District 68 be extended
2 slightly further eastward along Garden Grove Boulevard
3 to Edwards Street and continue south down Navaho Road to
4 Springdale Street to fully capture all of what we would
5 consider to be Little Saigon.

6 Secondly, CAPAFR would like to propose that
7 Koreatown and Little Saigon be coupled with areas that
8 have more common interests. We believe that Costa Mesa
9 is better suited in Assembly District 67, allowing for
10 shared communities of interest with the coastal cities
11 of Seal Beach and Huntington Beach. Alternatively, we
12 feel that our communities have more in common with the
13 immigrant communities north of Garden Grove and
14 Westminster. Thus, we would like to propose an even
15 switch in population between Costa Mesa for the
16 northwest part of Anaheim, the western portion of
17 Stanton currently split in your proposal and the small
18 piece of Little Saigon I just described.

19 In San Diego, CAPAFR's priorities were twofold,
20 uniting Mira Mesa with the area of Linda Vista and
21 binding those living in the South Bay by demonstrating
22 demographic similarities between Paradise Hills,
23 National City and Chula Vista. We recognize the
24 challenge and delicate balance of multiple factors in
25 the drawing of our districts. As such, I wanted to

1 reiterate that these proposed changes to the Assembly's
2 redistricting proposal represent a compromise of the
3 priorities articulated by CAPAFR.

4 Previously, CAPAFR had testified to how
5 education, military and crime concerns in San Diego
6 South Bay constitute a community of interest.
7 Specifically, our testimony noted how these communities
8 of interest create similarities between the areas of
9 National City, Paradise Hills and Chula Vista. For
10 example, data on military demonstrated that residents in
11 the area of Bonita, Chula Vista and Paradise Hills were
12 more likely than San Diego County residents generally to
13 have served in the military.

14 In response to the preliminary Assembly
15 proposal, CAPAFR would now offer to simply unite
16 National City with Paradise Hills, Bay Terraces, Alta
17 Vista, and the part of Bonita north of Bonita Avenue in
18 Assembly District 79, leaving Chula Vista to remain in
19 Assembly District 77. In this way, CAPAFR, MALDEF and
20 the William C. Velasquez Institute stand unified in
21 supporting these changes.

22 Testimony this afternoon by community members
23 will attest to the ways in which these proposed changes
24 respect the integrity of our communities. By the end of
25 the day, you will have heard from many members of

1 California's diverse Asian and Pacific Islander American
2 communities that make up our statewide coalition,
3 CAPAFR.

4 We greatly appreciate the opportunity to share
5 our concerns with you throughout the redistricting
6 process, and to that end CAPAFR urges the committee to
7 seriously consider our input and propose changes as well
8 as to take into account efforts to increase minority
9 voting strength for all communities.

10 Also, I just wanted to note that I would be
11 happy to submit export files for more specific analysis
12 around our proposed district lines to your team and to
13 the committee and these changes in effect would allow
14 our communities better representation and a stronger
15 voice on issues that impact us all.

16 Thank you for your time.

17 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
18 We appreciate both of your time. Is Dan Ichinose going
19 to be testifying this morning as well? He will not.
20 Okay. Does that conclude your presentation?

21 MS. FENG: That does conclude our presentation.

22 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you again very
23 much. I'm assuming that staff is coordinating with you
24 making sure we have copies of all your information, and
25 thank you again for taking the time to be here.

1 Right before he had to run out, Senator Perata
2 passed me a note that Professor Barbara Sinclair from
3 UCLA Department of Political Science needed to catch a
4 plane and he asked if we could have you up next. Let me
5 certainly accommodate that request from Senator Perata
6 and, Professor Sinclair, you are welcome.

7 PROFESSOR SINCLAIR: I'm Barbara Sinclair. I'm
8 the Marvin Hassenberg Professor of American Politics at
9 UCLA.

10 I'm here not to talk about the plan
11 specifically, but very briefly about voting behavior
12 that's relevant to evaluating the plan.

13 The questions I ask is, do California Anglo
14 voters bloc vote against minority candidates? When
15 confronted with a choice between an Anglo and a minority
16 candidate, do Anglo voters vote primarily on the basis
17 of race and ethnicity?

18 The answer to these questions is no. By far
19 the strongest predictor of Anglo vote choice is party
20 identification. Voters who identify as Democrats vote
21 heavily for Democratic candidates regardless of their
22 race or ethnicity. Those who identify as Republicans
23 vote heavily for Republican candidates. Ideology plays
24 a role as well. Liberals vote for the candidate
25 perceived as liberal and conservatives for the

1 conservative candidate.

2 Moderates, who make up the largest group, seek
3 out a moderate candidate, and this can sometimes lead to
4 the crossing of party lines. If, for example, Democrats
5 nominate a candidate seen as too liberal within a
6 particular district, some Democratic identifiers will
7 cross over and vote for the Republican candidate if he
8 or she is perceived as more moderate.

9 In primaries in nonpartisan elections where the
10 party cue is not available, ideology and a host of other
11 factors including candidate personality affects voter
12 choice. It does not appear that for Anglo voters race
13 and ethnicity are an important determinant.

14 Let's look at the evidence. Take any recent
15 partisan race in California, the 1998 statewide
16 elections, for example. Polling data showed the
17 Democratic identifiers voted overwhelming for Gray Davis
18 for Governor. Republican identifiers voted a bit less
19 overwhelmingly for Dan Lundgren.

20 Now, look at the Lieutenant Governor race. The
21 pattern is almost identical. Self-identified Democrats
22 voted for the Democratic candidate, Cruz Bustamante, and
23 Republicans did not. For Anglos, Bustamante's ethnicity
24 seems to have played no significant role in their voting
25 division.

1 More revealingly, the pattern also holds when
2 the Republican candidate is a minority and the
3 Democratic candidate is Anglo. The 2000 House race
4 between Cal Dooley and Rich Rodriguez provides a good
5 example. If you look at a map that charts where Dooley
6 was strongest and weakest and compare it with a map
7 displaying Democratic registration, you will see that
8 those two are close to indistinguishable. In other
9 words, Dooley, the Anglo Democrat, got the votes of
10 Democratic identifiers, many of whom are Latino.
11 Rodriguez, the Latino Republican, got the votes of
12 Republicans, few of whom are Latino. Party
13 identification and ideology trumped ethnicity even for
14 Latinos.

15 The same pattern holds for other races with
16 similar pairings. For example, the '98
17 Maldonado-Sanders Assembly race. In other words, these
18 Republican candidates who happened to be Latino did best
19 with Republican voters, few of whom shared their
20 ethnicity. They did least well with Democratic voters,
21 many of whom were Latino.

22 Finally, let's look at a nonpartisan race, the
23 runoff for city attorney in Los Angeles this June. This
24 is the sort of race in which voters are most challenged.
25 They lack party identification to guide them. In this

1 particular case, both candidates were Democrats. And
2 with so much of the press attention on the
3 top-of-the-ticket mayor's race, many voters may lack
4 much information about the candidates. In this case,
5 the candidates were distinct in ideology. Mike Fuhr, an
6 Anglo, is a liberal. Rocky Delgadillo, a Latino, is
7 moderate to mildly conservative. And, in fact, ideology
8 proved to be a powerful voting cue. 57 percent of
9 self-described liberals voted for Fuhr, 55 percent of
10 moderates and 66 percent of conservatives voted for
11 Delgadillo.

12 So in conclusion, California Anglos basically
13 vote primarily on their party identification and their
14 ideology. Race and ethnicity of the candidates seem to
15 play very little role. Thank you.

16 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much. A
17 fascinating presentation. And I assume you have copies
18 of that for our staff?

19 PROFESSOR SINCLAIR: Yes.

20 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
21 Our next witness will be Ms. Alice Huffman from here in
22 Sacramento, the president of the Statewide Conference of
23 the NAACP, and we welcome you again, Ms. Huffman.

24 MS. HUFFMAN: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, good
25 morning and thank you. I don't see Mr. Perata here, but

1 I will say good morning to him.

2 SENATOR PERATA: Good morning.

3 MS. HUFFMAN: Thank you.

4 SENATOR PERATA: I'm just shy and unassuming.
5 I'm often overlooked.

6 MS. HUFFMAN: The last presentation was
7 absolutely none of my business, but I would like to know
8 if she would have the same findings if she looked at the
9 primaries. She only compared general elections. In
10 that case the choices have been made where ethnicity
11 would have a big role.

12 But let me stick to the reason why I'm here
13 today, which is to talk about districts in the south
14 primarily. You will be pleased to know that I was
15 concerned yesterday that we may have some additional
16 comments on the north, and after agonizing all night, we
17 decided we'd be better off if we left those comments off
18 the table today and move on to the south.

19 I certainly don't envy you all in this task of
20 coming up with these political lines, and so today as we
21 conclude our testimony and the one that we gave
22 yesterday, we propose to go ahead and talk about the
23 south.

24 Let me state again that I am with the NAACP.
25 We are a statewide organization. We are not some

1 configuration that came together for reapportionment
2 purposes. We've been with you for 92 years and we
3 intend to be with you for 92 more years and will live
4 with whatever decisions are made by you that will affect
5 our viability, our political viability over the next 10
6 years.

7 I want to state that our focus is right to the
8 point. We are more interested in maintaining the four,
9 not the four, but the number of seats that we have in
10 each position and we're very clear about our focus. Our
11 focus is to protect the African American levels of
12 participation that we have in this state and that is
13 what we have used as the premise and basis for every
14 comment and recommendation that we made to you.

15 I want to start -- as I told you yesterday, we
16 also have an interest in where we have migrated, where
17 there might be some political strength that we should
18 look at to make sure that we have effective chance to
19 participate in whatever elections are being held there,
20 not necessarily to elect a minority, but to certainly
21 shape the candidate that is running to make sure that
22 that candidate is responsive.

23 So, Mr. Chairman, I thought I'd start with a
24 very nice area that you have interest in this morning
25 and that's Inland Empire. We do have large number of

1 African Americans that have migrated into the Inland
2 Empire, and I wanted to see how you were treating them
3 in your proposed lines, and I am pleased to tell you
4 that we like what we see in the 62nd district.

5 We know that the African American communities
6 in Rialto, Fontana and west side of San Bernardino will
7 have influence in that district, and we want to thank
8 you for the way that's been configured.

9 And then I will move on into the highly
10 volatile area of Los Angeles, and I want to make a point
11 to you that we have four African American Assemblymen
12 there and two State Senators, and it is in Los Angeles
13 County that we have our representation. So we have to
14 take a careful look at these districts because this is
15 where we have to hold the line and make sure that over
16 the next 10 years we at least keep them in power.

17 We hope eventually to get someone elected from
18 the north, but that's another issue, another discussion
19 for another meeting.

20 We believe that the lines that are drawn in
21 these districts are critical to our survival. We assess
22 the potential of maintaining African Americans in these
23 districts over the next 10 years and we examine the
24 likelihood of the new lines drawn if it would pit one
25 minority group against another. We firmly believe that

1 it was not the intent of the Voting Rights Act to ever
2 cause ethnic warfare. The Voting Rights Act is to
3 protect all ethnic groups, and so we are looking very
4 carefully at lines that could pit us against each other.

5 We want to recommend some adjustments in the
6 lines in Los Angeles that we think will strengthen the
7 African American base in those districts and will not
8 harm our Latino and Asian sisters and brothers. To that
9 end, we would like to start with Assembly District 47
10 and Assembly District 48, and I'd just like to tell you
11 that I know there is a lot of dialogue going around the
12 Capitol about adding and taking away communities from
13 the 48th district. The consensus of our local branch is
14 that the lines that you have drawn for the 47th district
15 and the 48th district, the proposed lines should remain
16 the way they are. We like them and we think that
17 probably that's the best chance we will have to keep
18 those districts over the next 10 years.

19 Then we move to the 51st district. An African
20 American has represented the 51st district for many
21 years. We believe Lomax should come out -- excuse me --
22 Lenox should come out of the 51st and place that in the
23 53rd district. This will avoid the packing of Latinos
24 in the district and shore up number of Latinos in the
25 53rd district.

1 An African American currently represents the
2 52nd district. The 52nd district, in my opinion, is the
3 weakest district of the four for retaining African
4 American leadership with the new lines that are now
5 drawn. It is not quite as competitive as it ought to
6 be. There are ways to shore it up that will cause
7 little harm to other districts, and the easiest way is
8 to move, to relocate the City of Carson and the
9 unincorporated area of Harbor Gateway. I'm confused as
10 whether Harbor Gateway and Rancho Cucamonga is the same,
11 but I mean it to be the same here. That's the area that
12 I'm talking about. But I don't know the LA area quite
13 as well, but those should be moved into the 52nd
14 district and that would shore up the African American
15 competitiveness in the 52nd district.

16 Now, Carson is currently a part of a district
17 that is represented by a Latino, and the high number of
18 Latino voters results in African Americans in that
19 district having very little political influence.
20 Moreover, keeping Carson in the 55th deprives the 52nd
21 of some badly needed votes that we think you ought to
22 move in there to keep us whole is the goal.

23 We also think that Bellflower should be removed
24 from the 52nd -- I have the second and five didn't come
25 out -- and Lomita from the 53rd and both of them should

1 be put in the 55th. This will make the 55th district
2 stronger and obviously will again shore up the 52nd
3 district.

4 This will also eliminate another political
5 problem that has surfaced regarding King/Drew Medical
6 University. There is talk that a proposal is underway
7 to change the name to a national Latino hero. The local
8 NAACP and other coalition members have discussed the
9 different proposals to shelter it by moving it into,
10 quote, a safe African American district.

11 King/Drew is now in the 52nd district. I want
12 to point out for those who think they might want to
13 change the name that it is the only designated United
14 Negro College on the West Coast and we believe the
15 placement of Carson in the 52nd district will reassure
16 African Americans and eliminate the King/Drew struggle.

17 That's our comments on the Assembly districts.

18 Then we move to the Senate districts, and
19 besides the funny looking lines, we don't have very much
20 to say about the Senate districts. They look like they
21 are perfectly okay. We propose that we support, even
22 though they got a funny little curve around one of them
23 that goes all the way down someplace and goes all the
24 way up the other, I guess you can manage a district like
25 that. So we support it. It certainly wouldn't do

1 anything to harm us as far as our goal of looking at the
2 voting rights of African Americans there. So we support
3 both SD 25 and SD 26.

4 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Excuse me. You say SD.
5 You mean Senate District?

6 MS. HUFFMAN: Yes, Senate District. What did I
7 say?

8 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: I just want to make
9 sure I'm following closely. So 25 and 26.

10 MS. HUFFMAN: 25 and 26.

11 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: A question from Senator
12 Perata.

13 MS. HUFFMAN: Ms. Huffman, I talked to Ed
14 Vincent and explained to him that he would not have to
15 drive around this way. He could go down and --

16 MS. HUFFMAN: He could cross this district.

17 SENATOR PERATA: He can leave his district to
18 cross over to get to the rest of the districts. He was
19 very happy to know that.

20 MS. HUFFMAN: I think there must be some horses
21 or something around there.

22 SENATOR PERATA: That's right. He knew that.

23 (Laughter.)

24 MS. HUFFMAN: On to the Congressional
25 districts, 89 in the north and CD 32, 35 and 37. When

1 2010 and '11 come around we still want those to be
2 African American representatives. And all of them, by
3 the way, are filled by African American women, which is
4 a kind of interesting phenomenon in our community
5 because all the men are in the State and all the women
6 are in Congress. So I don't know if that's a natural
7 evolutionary process or whatever, but that's the way it
8 is.

9 SENATOR PERATA: Natural selection.

10 ASSEMBLYMEMBER HORTON: Women are still on top.

11 MS. HUFFMAN: Well, we going to shore up the
12 bottom, too, there, Assemblyman.

13 We believe that the proposed lines for the most
14 part are reasonable to retain African American voting
15 strength. However, we note that CD 32 lost a percentage
16 of African American voters and we don't quite know why.
17 We would like to recommend that those voters be put back
18 into that Congressional district, and if that change is
19 made, we would be in position to recommend support for
20 all those Congressional districts.

21 Our testimony the last two days was direct and
22 to the point. The goal of protecting the current level
23 of African American representation was the basis for
24 each recommendation. If you accept our recommended
25 changes, all we need are qualified candidates to be

1 victorious in electing African Americans.

2 Again, I stress that it is not in the interests
3 of this state for you to draw lines that pit us against
4 our Latino and Asian brothers and sisters. Therefore,
5 we recommend easy solutions to mitigate that potential.
6 If you take our suggestions, you will meet the primary
7 goal of the Voting Rights Act by keeping us whole and
8 avoiding dilution of our voting strength.

9 The NAACP compliments the redistricting
10 committee on your basic responsiveness to our goals and
11 note that the majority of our recommendations simply
12 strengthen your solid beginning. I trust that each of
13 you share our belief that this great state will be
14 better off when all of its minorities and the majority
15 community have equity in the electoral process. Thank
16 you.

17 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
18 We appreciate it.

19 MS. HUFFMAN: When you get to typing, I got a
20 sticking key on my computer. That's five. Everywhere
21 you see one number, five belongs there.

22 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: I'm sorry. Let me get
23 that.

24 MS. HUFFMAN: I have like instead of 52nd I got
25 like the 2nd. It's because the five didn't come out.

1 After agonizing over it all night and trying to write it
2 this morning, I didn't catch those fives.

3 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Absolutely. I
4 understand. We'll look through that -- where it should be the
5 52nd rather than the 2nd or the 25th rather than the
6 2nd.

7 MS. HUFFMAN: That's right.

8 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: If we have questions on
9 that, is it possible maybe you might take one copy and
10 just take and maybe by hand just annotate it so we make
11 sure we don't misinterpret?

12 MS. HUFFMAN: I will.

13 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: We sure appreciate
14 that. Thank you very much.

15 MS. HUFFMAN: Thank you very much.

16 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Question from
17 Mr. Horton.

18 ASSEMBLYMEMBER HORTON: Mrs. Huffman, you spoke
19 about the King/Drew Medical Center and the potential
20 conflict that exists there between two minority
21 communities. Is it your testimony or your belief that
22 the inappropriate drawing of these lines from a
23 structural and infrastructure perspective may aggravate
24 the conflict that exists there? And oftentimes there is
25 a conflict; however, when we talk about minority

1 representation, one of the realities is is that
2 minorities share a commonality that has a broader base
3 and it's a commonality that I think has proven over the
4 history with people such as Kenny Hahn and so forth that
5 representation can come from other ethnic groups that will
6 share the commonality and that concern. But when we
7 talk about community of interest and we talk about
8 perpetuating conflicts that already exist, I don't think
9 it would be appropriate for the State or the intention
10 of the State to aggravate such activities by
11 systemically marginalizing the African American vote.

12 Is that your testimony in regards to that
13 particular issue? I just want to better understand what you kind
14 of said over that.

15 MS. HUFFMAN: You know, to the victor goes the
16 spoils, and in each ethnic group, it's like your family.
17 You're not comfortable with a very large family. We
18 have good actors and bad actors and we have actors that
19 respect their roles and we have actors that have to grow
20 up and mature. I think within our communities we have
21 some of all of that. There has been a threat, and I
22 don't know the level and extent of the threat, that
23 eventually when Latinos are finally in complete charge
24 of that area that the King/Drew Medical Center name
25 would be changed.

1 I don't know to what extent that's possible,
2 but all I know is that what I'm recommending on this
3 table is that we deal with those issues out front and to
4 the degree that the lines might have something to do
5 with exacerbating a problem like that, you have the
6 power to draw those districts so that there is enough
7 competitiveness in there among the groups, particularly
8 the African American that is my interest this morning,
9 that we can sort of put those minor problems aside.

10 They will eventually go away as we evolve and
11 mature working together in our ethnic communities and
12 coming together in coalitions, but right now your job
13 with drawing these lines is to ensure that we have
14 enough voting strength in those districts that our voice
15 and our influence will be heard. That's what I mean
16 that the problem will go away because it won't ever
17 happen.

18 ASSEMBLYMEMBER HORTON: Thank you, ma'am.

19 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Were there any
20 questions? Thank you very much. We appreciate your
21 taking time to be here with us today.

22 MS. HUFFMAN: Thank you. I'm sorry. Reverend
23 Campbell. I didn't realize you came with me.

24 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Reverend Campbell, we
25 recognize you next.

1 MR. CAMPBELL: Thank you. I am honored,
2 Mr. Chair, Chair Longville and Chair Perata, members of
3 the Legislature, members of the committee, ladies and
4 gentlemen, to be seated next to our state conference
5 president of the NAACP, Miss Alice Huffman, and one that
6 has a leadership in this state that is noteworthy and
7 truly appreciated.

8 I am, again, the Reverend William Monroe
9 Campbell, senior pastor of the Mount Gilead Missionary
10 Baptist Church in Los Angeles. When I was with you
11 before, I was pastoral associate in the Second
12 Missionary Baptist Church of Los Angeles, but now senior
13 pastor of the Mount Gilead Missionary Baptist Church
14 from Los Angeles and coordinator of the African American
15 Community Advisory Committee on Redistricting.

16 It's in the capacity of coordinator of the
17 African American Community Advisory Committee on
18 Redistricting that I come before you today as I have
19 been before your committee previously, before both
20 committees in the Assembly and in the Senate to address
21 the matter of redistricting.

22 In each of the appearances that I have made
23 before you on behalf of our community, I have sought to
24 define, to articulate and to enunciate the sense of our
25 community's identity and those elements that inform our

1 community interests. This I have sought to do both in a
2 historic context and in the light of the language that
3 has been acknowledged by the United States Supreme Court
4 as appropriately reflective of acceptable constitutional
5 parameters for redistricting.

6 In offering that information, I indeed, we have
7 endeavored to share insights about migration, mobility,
8 social, cultural and institutional patterns that those
9 who do not share the experience of our community and
10 history would not necessarily know or understand. We
11 have done this not only from a point of view of
12 providing general information, but also with a sense of
13 serving as a resource to you who have the responsibility
14 for making decisions without the benefit of such
15 understanding.

16 And we have shared and do fully share and
17 concur with the expressions that Ms. Huffman has offered
18 up that a primary concern be the preservation of the
19 electability of persons within our community of interest
20 that currently are representing at Congressional levels
21 again where we have four persons throughout the state,
22 at the State Senate level where we have two districts
23 throughout the state and at the Assembly level where we
24 have four districts throughout the state.

25 Unfortunately, I am before you today somewhat

1 mystified with the impressions that what we offered may
2 not have been understood or well regarded and I hope not
3 disregarded. I'm sensing some dialogue that may suggest
4 that the basic issues have been preserved but with
5 different twists and nuances. And I hope that's the
6 case.

7 Your own guidelines speak of compactness and
8 contiguity as informing elements and we shared
9 information regarding migration pattern of our
10 community. As I view areas such as the 32nd U. S.
11 Congressional district with its intrusion into Silver
12 Lake-Echo Park district rather than westerly or
13 northwesterly expansion, I must ask what informed your
14 view of that or that of your colleagues in the Senate or
15 your consultants. From my perspective, it defies the
16 present reality, advances the retrogressive trajectory
17 that will make short-lived the likely electability of
18 future representatives who share an understanding of and
19 identity with our community of interest.

20 And that becomes an important piece.
21 Obviously, persons who are in office, incumbents, are
22 able to develop relationships and are able to transcend,
23 but when that person who has that name identity issue
24 that you know is so valuable in your profession, if you
25 please, is no longer on the mark, then other issues come

1 into perspective. And it is at that point this
2 community of interest is diluted, future electability
3 comes into question.

4 I must also question the proposed assignment of
5 the City of Gardena to the 51st Assembly District when
6 it comes out of a migratory pattern that historically
7 moved south from Watts, through Willowbrook, Compton and
8 Carson. This I know firsthand because of growing up in
9 the Palm Lane Housing Projects of the County of Los
10 Angeles that was literally situated where the Martin
11 Luther King - Charles Drew Medical University and
12 Hospital now stand. I saw the orange groves and the
13 fruit orchards as they were replaced with homes and
14 housing tracts. I saw schools being built to
15 accommodate this migratory pattern, and I witnessed
16 churches and businesses come into existence to serve the
17 needs of the new and emerging residents.

18 So knowing that movement pattern, I raise the
19 question in terms of the adjustment in the light of that
20 evolution of the community of interest.

21 Thirdly, and this is perhaps more on the side
22 of State Senate, nevertheless, allow me this venue to
23 articulate it, I am gravely concerned about the lines
24 that have been proposed for the 25th State Senate
25 District. It appears to me to be more gerrymandering

1 than compactness, foregoing immediately adjacent areas
2 such as Carson and sweeping down and around Palos Verdes
3 and some have talked about the funny looking lines.

4 Again, I raise the concern, not about the
5 electability of the incumbent, but about future
6 electability of future potential candidates; and if you
7 can provide to the extent you can assurance that that's
8 sustainable, then it would be open to dialogue. Again,
9 the question is what does this do for our future
10 community of interest especially in this era of term
11 limits. We are gravely concerned.

12 In closing, let me invite a thorough
13 reconsideration of the proposals before you in light of
14 the offerings we have made. I've also attached copies
15 of our previously submitted testimony before from both
16 your committee and that of your colleagues in the State
17 Senate. I ask you in the name of all that is fair, just
18 and righteous to please give corrective attention to
19 these concerns.

20 Finally, please be assured I speak as a result
21 of meetings with stakeholders in our community such as
22 again the NAACP, the Southern Christian Leadership
23 Conference, the Baptist Ministers Conferences, other
24 church leaders, senior citizens representatives,
25 neighborhood organizations, business organizations,

1 labor organizations and the general populace of our
2 community. It's our prayer that we can receive fair
3 resolve here without having to seek judicial redress.

4 Thank you, and this is respectfully submitted
5 by myself as coordinator and Dr. Washington, who is the
6 chair of our committee.

7 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much. I
8 should note the hearing today is actually a joint
9 hearing of both the Assembly and the Senate. So we're
10 taking information on all lines. You were not in any
11 way imposing on us by making on comments on lines for
12 more than just the Assembly. We are taking comments on
13 all lines today. Thank you very much for giving us that
14 and we will pass along to the conferees.

15 MR. CAMPBELL: Thank you.

16 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you both very
17 much.

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

00381

1 (Whereupon, the following proceedings were
2 reported by Leigh Ann Orozco:)

3 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: My next witness that we
4 have scheduled is Mr. Joel Szabat, coordinator of
5 Chinese American CEOs of Silicon Valley. And just so he
6 can be prepared, we'll note that the -- Oh, let me one
7 more time just double check that Congressman Sherman is
8 not in.

9 Okay. After Mr. Szabat, Mr. Clayton will be --
10 will be next.

11 And, Mr. Clayton, if you -- I don't know if you
12 heard me there, but if -- You'll be up next after
13 Mr. Szabat.

14 And Mr. Szabat, welcome.

15 MR. SZABAT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, members.
16 My name is Joel Szabat, S-Z-A-B-A-T, executive director
17 of Chinese American CEOs of Silicon Valley.

18 I want to thank the committee and the members
19 again for their patience for this, our ultimate day of
20 public testimony. For listening to all of us and
21 recognizing that you have an important and difficult
22 distinction.

23 As difficult and as helpful as it's been for
24 all of you to have had an open process and to listen to
25 us, what will, of course, be more difficult is for you

00382

1 to accept all of our suggestions and come up with a plan
2 that doesn't anger most of us. So, with that in mind, I
3 just want to reiterate what -- on behalf of what CACEO
4 said yesterday, for the Assembly, our priorities are
5 simply to first retain the existing Asian Pacific
6 Islander plurality in San Francisco's 12th Assembly
7 district, to regain the East Bay plurality and the API
8 plurality in the district that should include Berryessa,
9 Milpitas, Newark and Fremont, that would be the 20th
10 Assembly district, and finally to attain a third, a new
11 API-plurality district, the 49th District in Los
12 Angeles.

13 Since Kathy Feng from CAPAFR has so eloquently
14 described to -- the concentration and the nature of the
15 Asian Pacific Islander population in that part of the
16 San Gabriel Valley, I will just touch on some key
17 points.

18 The portion of Los Angeles that is bounded by
19 San Marino and Mayflower Village to the north, Monterey
20 Park and Rosemead to the south, and includes Alhambra,
21 Temple City and all three San Gabriels, is, in fact, the
22 cultural heart of the Asian Pacific Islander community
23 in Los Angeles. Perhaps more importantly, it is also
24 the largest population concentration of Asian Pacific
25 Islanders not just in Southern California and not just

00383

1 in California, but anywhere in the entire United
2 States -- I'm sorry, the entire continental United
3 States. There is over a half a million people included
4 in those communities, half of whom are Asian Pacific
5 Islanders. So, it is a quarter of a million people.

6 The Assembly plan unites three-quarters of this
7 community. And with only minor changes, you could
8 create a district, the 49th Assembly district, that
9 would reflect the fact that is a unified cultural center
10 of the Asian Pacific Islander community and make it in
11 the current Assembly plan the second API-plurality
12 district in the state.

13 Just to put this in perspective. With the
14 current draft Assembly plan, obviously it has 80
15 Assembly districts. 56 of those have Anglo majority or
16 pluralities. 21 of them have Latino majorities or
17 pluralities. Two of them have an African-American
18 plurality. One of them has an Asian Pacific Islander
19 plurality.

20 Of all of the ethnic communities in California,
21 the worst disparity between the actual population and
22 the representation by districts is with the Asian
23 Pacific Islander community. 13 percent of the
24 population of California is Asian Pacific Islander. As
25 Assemblymember Nakano had mentioned earlier, that would

1 be numerically reflected by ten Asian Pacific Islander
2 districts. So, the current plan has one. We are hoping
3 that you will be able to restore the second one in the
4 South Bay/East Bay area, and add the third one, which is
5 the 49th Assembly district.

6 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Mr. Szabat, if I might,
7 I just -- I want to make sure that I don't miss this.
8 The 13 percent number, was that -- just so I'm comparing
9 apples with apples as I'm looking at things, is that
10 voting age population or total population?

11 MR. SZABAT: That is total population.

12 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: You don't happen to
13 have voting age population, do you?

14 MR. SZABAT: Not statewide, I do not.

15 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: It's probably pretty
16 close to that, though, it would be my guess.

17 MR. SZABAT: It would be -- Yes, it's -- With
18 the Asian population, most areas I have looked at, the
19 voting age population, although obviously not the actual
20 number of actual eligible voters, is roughly similar to
21 the total population, that's correct.

22 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.

23 MR. SZABAT: Okay. So our -- CACEO's request
24 is very minor on the Assembly side, which is slight
25 modifications to the proposed boundaries of 49th

1 District to make it the second, and then hopefully in
2 conjunction with the 20th Assembly district, the third
3 district to reflect an API plurality.

4 The Senate plan is a horse of a different
5 color. If -- To paraphrase Winston Churchill, "Never in
6 the course of human history have so many been sliced up
7 so much into so little." The Senate plan in Southern
8 California literally rips the heart out of the two
9 largest API communities. The first one is Los Angeles,
10 is the one that Kathy Feng has spoken about before based
11 in the Monterey Park to Arcadia line.

12 And I have passed out to the committee members
13 these colored maps. And if the members could turn to
14 the first one here, it shows graphically exactly where
15 the Asian population concentrations are and how they are
16 carved up into what --

17 Remember, the Assembly was able to put 75
18 percent of this community into one Assembly district.
19 The Senate takes the same community and divides it into
20 four different Senate districts. And just to kind of
21 touch on some of the absurdities of the way -- of the
22 division, the Asian communities of Arcadia and Mayflower
23 Village are put into a heavily Anglo Senate district
24 which unites the communities of interest of La Canada,
25 Flintridge far to the west, and Rancho Cucamonga far to

1 the east.

2 The map makers were able to do in the 21st
3 District what geography could not do, which is they
4 moved San Gabriel out of the San Gabriel Valley and
5 linked it instead with Van Nuys in the San Fernando
6 Valley.

7 The community of Alhambra, a heavily Asian-
8 populated community, which is north of Monterey Park,
9 is instead put by a long gerrymandered finger into a
10 heavily Latino district which is south of Monterey Park.
11 And the communities of Monterey Park and Rosemead are
12 used as two Asian stitches which unite other Latino
13 communities to the east and the west.

14 The net effect of these changes -- of these
15 proposals in these districts, that instead of a unified
16 Asian Pacific Islander community, which is a unified
17 community and is the cultural center for Asians in
18 Southern California, you end up with four Senate
19 districts, not one of which has even 20 percent API
20 population. And that is total population, not voting
21 population. The voting population numbers range in the
22 8 to 12 percent range.

23 I am not one to loosely charge someone with
24 racism or with insensitivity to a community, but I will
25 say this about this map: If I was a racist, and I

1 wanted a map that would deliberately dilute the voting
2 impact of the Asian Pacific Islander community of
3 California, this is the map that I would propose.

4 The impact in Orange County is similar to the
5 impact in Los Angeles. The major Latino -- excuse me,
6 the major Asian-American community in Orange County is
7 based around the Vietnamese communities of Westminster
8 and Garden Grove. The proposed map -- Senate map
9 between the 34th and the 35th Congressional Senate
10 districts zigzags back and forth through those two
11 communities without regard to city boundaries, community
12 boundaries or even census tracts.

13 It is possible to start in Westminster, in an
14 Asian community, drive due north from there to Little
15 Saigon in Garden Grove, and actually cross five times
16 across the Senate boundaries back and forth between the
17 34th and the 35th Districts. The district almost
18 beautifully, if not artistically, splits those two
19 communities -- splits both of those communities in two,
20 but in no rational or explainable way in terms of
21 community interests.

22 The Senate plan as proposed for Southern
23 California, for Los Angeles and Orange Counties,
24 effectively disenfranchises the 2 million Asian Pacific
25 Americans who live in Southern California. This plan

1 fails every basic test of fairness. It is not
2 geographically compact, it does not unite communities of
3 interest, and it does not give the same consideration to
4 the voting rights of Asian Pacific Americans as it does
5 to Anglos and to other ethnic communities.

6 I am in full accord with what Alice Huffman had
7 said earlier. Neither the Voting Rights Act nor the
8 redistricting plan that are before us should pit ethnic
9 communities against each other, but this is exactly what
10 this Senate plan does, at least in Southern California.

11 In Los Angeles and Orange County, this turns
12 the Asian Pacific Islander into fluff and stuffing to
13 help create four Anglo and two Latino Senate districts.
14 And for that reason, for the fact that it is not fair
15 treatment for the Asian Pacific Islander communities of
16 Southern California, I would urge the Senate and the
17 Legislature to go back to the drawing board as far as
18 the Southern California Senate districts are concerned.

19 Thank you very much for your time and your
20 patience.

21 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
22 Mr. Szabat.

23 And let me just quickly ask if there were any
24 questions for Mr. Szabat?

25 All right. Hearing none, thank you again. We

00389

1 appreciate your time and trouble.

2 And at this time, Mr. Allen Clayton is due up.

3 And welcome again, Mr. Clayton.

4 MR. CLAYTON: Thank you, Chairperson Longville.

5 I have a number of remarks today, and I'm going to -- I
6 listened yesterday and went back and thought about some
7 of the issues that were raised.

8 I actually want to start out talking about the
9 32nd Congressional district. And I want to share the
10 concern that was raised by Reverend Campbell and also
11 raised by Senator Wats- -- I mean Congressperson
12 Diane Watson. I think they are legitimate concerns. I
13 am raising these on behalf of California Latino
14 Redistricting Coalition, and I also share the concerns
15 of the NAACP, and I just want to run you through some
16 numbers of why I think their concerns are legitimate in
17 terms of retrogressing the African-American voting
18 strengths.

19 In terms of your 32nd District, what you've
20 done is you've taken down the African-American
21 population in that district from 30 -- approximately 33
22 percent down to 30.2 percent. But where it causes a
23 concern is when you get over into the voting-age
24 population, and there the white population is 23.2
25 percent and the African-American population is 29.9, and

00390

1 there you have reduced the African-American population
2 by 2.8 percent and increased the Anglo population by
3 0.52.

4 Now, in term -- I happen to work campaigns, and
5 I have been involved in politics actually since the
6 '60s. So I'm familiar how you run campaigns. And what
7 this would tell a nonAfrican-American challenger when
8 the Congressperson decides to retire, because I think
9 she'll stay in there as long as she pleases because she
10 does a good job, that, you know, maybe we have a shot at
11 this seat. And I'm saying that from the standpoint of
12 somebody who has been involved in campaigns over 30
13 years and been active in campaign strategies.

14 So, I would submit to you that Reverend
15 Campbell's remarks and the staff person for Diane --
16 Congressperson Diane Watson, excuse me, but I call her
17 Senator Watson, because I'm so used to when she was with
18 the Senate, are very much on the point and encourage you
19 to go back and look at your plan. I think it needs
20 work, and I think that it can be done.

21 And I especially am concerned when I see a
22 hook, and I know where the hook goes. It doesn't go
23 into the African-American community, that is for sure.
24 You are rolling around picking up areas that -- there's
25 not a lot of African-Americans in those areas. It goes

00391

1 over past the West Hollywood area. I mean, I'm just
2 kind of surprised at this particular plan from the
3 standpoint of just drawing maps that are contiguous and
4 compact and reflect community of interest and also from
5 the standpoint of voting rights and also from a
6 standpoint of it just -- it doesn't make a lot of sense
7 to me why this was drawn that way.

8 Then we get over to a very interesting map,
9 which is the -- I have that in front of me. It's the
10 25th District. And what you did there is you basically
11 put in affluent white Republicans mainly with African-
12 Americans and Latinos in the Inglewood/Compton area.
13 From a community-of-interest standpoint, I would defy
14 the committee to tell me where the community of interest
15 is. I just don't understand it.

16 I mean, I thought -- I remember back in '91,
17 the Court talked about community of interest. Now, if
18 any member here can tell me for the, you know -- for the
19 public, I think the public should have a question on
20 this. What does Rancho Palos Verdes have in common with
21 Inglewood? Well, they have country clubs over there,
22 you know. I'm sure that, you know, you can drive
23 through the area, and if you look at the area, it is
24 affluent white. I know the area. I have driven through
25 there. So, I don't understand why you did that, because

1 you could build a compact district that would keep
2 together the African-American community so there would
3 be electability.

4 You have a Senator that is very popular that
5 could win in this district. That is not the question.
6 The question is: Why did you do it when you didn't have
7 to, and why did you basically take community of interest
8 and toss it out the window?

9 In terms of the 52nd District. In that
10 particular district, the city that was in there before,
11 that was about 80 percent Latino and 17 percent African-
12 American. We basically have said -- I have been on the
13 record on this for a long time -- that city can go over
14 into an area that is more into where there is a Latino
15 community, and that was the area where potential
16 challengers might come from in the future, and that area
17 strengthens the seat. So, in terms -- the question is
18 what you put in and what you put out in all of these, of
19 course.

20 On that one, I think -- at least I have been on
21 record that we don't want to do anything that would in
22 any way, shape or form reduce the African-American
23 percentage in that district from its current amount.
24 And if we could look at ways to build it up, then we
25 would be willing to look at that. I'm speaking on terms

00393

1 of my coalition, because what we believe is that it is
2 very important to have a good working relationship with
3 the African-American community.

4 Despite press reports, I haven't seen tension
5 out there in terms of redistricting. I didn't see it in
6 '91. I see a lot of press hoping that, it seems, that
7 there is some problems, but I don't see those problems.
8 I think they can be worked out, and they have been
9 worked out. They were worked out in '91. And the proof
10 is what happened in '91, the seats that were drawn and
11 who won those seats. Not one seat was taken away from
12 an African-American by a Latino. That's the record.
13 And I know which seats changed hands. They were not
14 Latinos that took those seats. So, again, we want to
15 try to work with the African-American community. We
16 have been talking to the NAACP through this process,
17 trying to work out issues if there are concerns.

18 The only issue I raise on the 37th is I would
19 like to keep Lynwood whole, because it is a city, and we
20 try to not split cities, and I think you can protect the
21 African-American community's percentage and electability
22 in the 37th without splitting Lynwood.

23 Those are my comments on those particular
24 districts. I think that it is very important that you
25 take those comments and the comments that were made by

1 Reverend Campbell. I think that in terms of -- And I
2 talked to Reverend Campbell during County redistricting
3 extensively, because we were looking at basically how to
4 redraw the county but to ensure that African-Americans
5 were treated fairly and with respect during that
6 process. And we actually drew a plan that had the
7 highest percentage of African-Americans that we
8 submitted to the plan that went under the Latino
9 coalition.

10 So, again, with the state redistricting, we
11 want to do the same approach, work together to ensure
12 that there is no retrogression of any district where
13 there are African-American incumbents, and also look to
14 the 16th District to ensure that happens, and the 9th
15 District. And I have looked at the 9th. I think it can
16 be made a little stronger African-American. That's just
17 my own opinion from looking at the area. But again, I
18 defer to people in the north. I just looked at the data
19 and I did some charts and analysis, and I thought you
20 could make it a little stronger.

21 I have comments on a couple of other issues as
22 you go down the state. In terms of the issue that came
23 up on the 49th District -- I actually live in the 49th.
24 I have lived there for years. My business, my
25 residence, where I basically go out with my wife for

00395

1 dinner is the 49th. So, I'm very familiar with it. I
2 know it very, very well. I have worked on campaigns
3 there and am very happy to live in the 49th. I think it
4 is a wonderful district. And we have communities there
5 that work together. We have both the Asian and Latino
6 community. If you look at who is elected to office, you
7 will see both Asians and Latinos in Monterey Park have
8 been elected to office, and I think there has been a
9 good working relationship.

10 The concern that I have on the 49th -- and I
11 speak from both a standpoint of I live there and I
12 believe that it is a district that works well
13 together -- I believe that one of the key things that
14 was done in '91, and I was involved in those
15 discussions, was keeping the four cities, the Monterey
16 Park, San Gabriel and Rosemead together instead of
17 split. And I would -- I will comment after this on your
18 Senate and Congressional, because I think the points
19 raised by the previous speaker were on target, how the
20 Asian community was cut up on the Congressional, put
21 into Xavier Becerra's district, Alhambra, makes
22 absolutely no sense. You sliced and diced the Asian
23 community.

24 What we are saying is in the 49th, currently
25 the Latino registration is 46 percent. You took it down

00396

1 to 32. I believe that's a violation of Section 2 of the
2 Voting Rights Act. And we'll look at that very
3 carefully. And I can tell you that there is people in
4 the district that are going to look at that very
5 carefully, regardless of what anybody else does. We
6 live there. And I am very angry about taking a district
7 I live in, where I have a 46-percent representation,
8 taking it down to 42 and telling me -- I mean 32 and
9 telling me that is okay. And I have talked to other
10 people in the district, and they are not happy about it,
11 either.

12 So, on that particular one I think there should
13 be an attempt to work out a compromise where -- And I
14 think good people on both sides will try to work out
15 that compromise. But as I've said, I think when you go
16 beneath 40 percent -- and that is a long jump down from
17 46 -- when you go beneath 40, then you are really
18 getting into a voting rights issue. And I hope the
19 Assembly doesn't go that way and violate the Voting
20 Rights Act.

21 And as far as drawing in other areas. You
22 know, if you're talking about there's a -- one of the
23 issues that came up yesterday was the Latino population
24 is not increasing in that district. Well, that's a very
25 dangerous argument -- anybody that uses that argument.

1 Because you know what that impacts on any group? The
2 African-Americans in south central. That's the same
3 argument that can be used against Latinos. And your
4 population is not going up there, so then we can move
5 in, basically lower your voting strength there.

6 Well, I can make the same argument, which I
7 will not make because I don't believe that argument, and
8 I don't believe that argument for this district, and I
9 reject it, but you can make the same argument over
10 there. Latinos have increased, African-Americans have
11 declined, so we should go in and cut up the African-
12 American community and make that district a lot weaker.
13 I reject that argument, my coalition rejects that
14 argument, and I think you should reject that argument.
15 Because what you are doing here is the same thing some
16 of us could have done who really know how to do
17 redistricting over there. It's wrong. It should not be
18 done. It pits groups against each other and it changes
19 basically something that was put together in '91, which
20 I thought was a good compromise, putting those four
21 communities together. And you know what? The court
22 thought so, too.

23 Remember, this plan was not drawn by you. The
24 plan that is there now was drawn by the special masters
25 after reviewing all of the Senate and Assembly testimony

00398

1 and after six days of hearings, and it was adopted by
2 the State Supreme Court. Then there was litigation
3 filed in Witt versus Wilson, went to the Supreme Court.
4 This was not adopted by politicians. This was adopted
5 by a court after an analysis, and it was a thorough
6 analysis. So when you go in there and say now you can
7 change it, well, you know what, you are looking for a
8 legal problem here, and you are looking for a political
9 problem with those of us that live in the district, and
10 you are setting an extremely bad precedent for the
11 future and you should think about that.

12 When people come in and say well, if Latinos
13 didn't increase in there, they are going down a little
14 bit, then we should look at other areas where other
15 groups are going down. I think we should reject that.
16 I think it is wrong. So that is my concern on the 49th.

17 In terms of the -- I had one other concern that
18 I wanted to raise because there were discussions that
19 was raised today by the 79th in terms of the plan put
20 forth by the Asian Pacific coalition. And in that
21 particular district -- and I'll raise the concern here
22 because it's before you -- the current population of
23 Latinos is 60.8 percent. Under their proposal, it is
24 52.95. I have a concern about that, and that is a
25 Section 2 concern. Also, the 45th, the current Latino

00399

1 percentage is 66.22. Their proposal is 54.72 I have a
2 Section 2 concern there, too. And I'm very familiar
3 with Section 2. So, in those the -- where asked to make
4 changes, I think you should look at those changes in
5 terms of Section 2.

6 When you take in the 79th the Latino percentage
7 down 8 points, I think you got a Section 2 issue. And
8 when you take in the 45th, which I'm very familiar with,
9 having lived there, down from 66.2 to 54.7, I'm sure you
10 have a voting rights issue.

11 That has been a seat that has been a voting
12 rights issue for many, many years in discussions. In
13 fact, the court basically found that that was one that
14 they would pay very close attention to when they drew
15 the lines. And to cut that down significantly -- And
16 any of you in politics know 12 points is a major cut.
17 Any time -- If you take a district and you cut the
18 Democrats down 12, you are going to hear screams and
19 yelling. Well, I can tell you on this one, if people
20 see this in the Latino community, they are going to say,
21 "What is going on here?" So I just raise that because I
22 have concern. It was put on the record.

23 Now, I wanted to go into some other issues.
24 One of the other issues that I wanted to raise that I
25 dealt with a little bit yesterday is the issue of the

00400

1 coast. I looked at your 18th District, Jack O'Connell's
2 district. I thought he did a fabulous job representing
3 it. And now you've basically taken that district, and I
4 don't know what you are trying to do with it, but you
5 sure as hell don't have a coastal district anymore.

6 I have an environmental concern there. Because
7 Latinos are also concerned about the environment. We
8 also go to the beach, and our community likes to have
9 clean beaches. And we would like to keep the coast
10 together. And I'm saying in the 18th, what you've done
11 is you basically cut up the coast.

12 I have listened to what the people -- And the
13 other one that was an interesting one that I wanted to
14 raise was how in the world is Salinas and Watsonville a
15 community of interest with Merced? You know, that one
16 doesn't strike me as a -- There is a mountain over
17 there. How are you going to get around the mountain?
18 Is there going to be a new tunnel through the mountain?
19 I mean, I have driven in that area. Are you aware when
20 you go from Merced to Salinas how you drive it? So, I
21 think we are going to take some interesting routes. And
22 as far as community of interest, I think it got tossed
23 out the window on that one.

24 If I lived in the Central Valley -- but I have
25 been there and I like the Central Valley, and I looked

00401

1 at what you have done to the Central Valley -- and I was
2 a Central Valley person, I would say, you know, they
3 must not care about the Central Valley, or nobody that's
4 on the policy committee that's from the Central Valley,
5 because they surely don't care about it. Because what
6 you have done -- You can draw a Senate seat where
7 Monteith is and keep it in the Central Valley. Similar
8 in numbers, Democrat, Republican, Latino. It's
9 possible. I know that. So why didn't you do that, and
10 why did you have to go all the way over there and pick
11 up another area?

12 And then the other thing that kind of struck me
13 as interesting was in the Salinas to East San Jose area,
14 you can clearly draw a district that would be clearly a
15 solid Democratic district such as McPherson is now. He
16 just runs real strong. But in terms of electability,
17 that is a strong Democratic seat. You had somebody who
18 was a superb campaigner in McPherson. He ran -- If you
19 look at Keeley's seat where McPherson was before, he ran
20 it and then Keeley won it overwhelmingly. So you had a
21 very unusual candidate that could reach across the
22 Democrats and Independents. That was a Democratic seat.

23 What you could do is make it even a stronger
24 Democratic seat. Also, you could have the ability to
25 elect a Latino candidate by moving from East San Jose

1 and going down all the way to Salinas and down even
2 further and draw a very contiguous, compact seat that
3 makes sense from a community of interest. Instead, you
4 basically cut it -- kept it as it is.

5 You have cut up the area that could be
6 together, a Democratic area, and you made it a
7 Republican seat. That doesn't make sense to me and, you
8 know, I think some people in the Democrats -- what were
9 you guys thinking of when you did that? Why would do
10 you that when you had a Democratic seat? You could have
11 made it stronger Democratic, and you made it into a
12 Republican seat. That one is, you know -- again, I
13 question the wisdom of some of this drawing from just a
14 standpoint of I take pride in how I draw stuff.

15 So -- And also, it strikes me as going around
16 the state and looking at the lines -- There is a lot of
17 stuff like this around here, but I don't want to go on
18 and go through every single one of the areas where I
19 think you could have done better, but I will cite a few
20 again for the record, since we have as -- again, I have
21 to say this, we should have had more time.

22 I mean -- You know, again last night I had to
23 get up, stay up late, prepare, review this. But what
24 about the average citizen? What about groups that
25 haven't done redistricting for 16 or 17 years and

00403

1 basically love to do redistricting? I mean, how do you
2 review all this stuff and come in and be able to
3 present? I think you would have a tremendous interest
4 if you really got the word out and gave people the time
5 and the ability, especially since you have cut up
6 communities all over the state and made a mockery of
7 community of interest.

8 But getting back to the Senate. Again, the
9 concern I have is on the 12th. That seat is currently
10 held by Mr. -- Senator Monteith. I believe you can draw
11 that in the Central Valley. I think you can have it as
12 a seat that is similar in Democratic/Republican
13 registration, similar in Latino registration. You do
14 not have to go -- not exactly, but similar. You don't
15 have to go all the way over to Salinas.

16 The 15th. Again, I think you can look at an
17 area, the East San Jose area, and you can look at the
18 area down in the Salinas area, the Hollister area, and
19 there is a seat in there that basically would be a
20 Democratic seat, which it really is in registration
21 right now, performs Democrat for Gore, Democrat for
22 Feinstein. It's just you had a very strong moderate
23 Republican Senator who did a great job campaigning. So,
24 that one I think you should look at. Just making that a
25 Republican seat seems kind of interesting.

1 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Mr. Clayton, if I might
2 just note, we actually do have, despite the fact that I
3 know you would like to see more people testifying, we do
4 have a good number of people who are waiting to testify.

5 MR. CLAYTON: I'm finishing up.

6 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.

7 MR. CLAYTON: I'm testifying from my coalition.
8 You have given other coalitions a lot of time. I would
9 like due respect.

10 The 27th. Again, I raise that what you've done
11 basically is where there could be four Section 2 seats,
12 Senate seats -- clearly I believe Section 2 seats in
13 that portion of Los Angeles, you have made three, and
14 you have done it in a way that doesn't make sense to me.

15 Basically, you made the 27th seat one where
16 there could be a Section 2 seat. I know it's possible.
17 And you made it a seat where it would be a competitive
18 seat where most likely a nonLatino would win. Not for
19 sure, but you've basically taken a seat where you could
20 have a seat which is a Section 2, and I think you got a
21 voting rights issue in that particular area, and I think
22 it's very -- and I think your experts can figure that
23 out. I know they are very good at what they do.

24 On the Congress. In the Los Angeles County
25 area, I have three issues to raise. Again, the issue of

1 cutting up the 26th. I think that's a clear voting
2 rights issue. It is a safe Democratic seat. It appears
3 that you're taking it down to 18 percent, whereas
4 basically you could draw a seat that is about 40 percent
5 Latino, but in the Democratic primary over 50. You have
6 basically disenfranchised the Latino community there,
7 and then you have given the Sherman number over and
8 given it a portion of the Latino community, a strong
9 portion, but not enough for electability. So you have
10 disenfranchised the community.

11 In terms of the other areas, as I said, in the
12 area running from the Pomona area down to the southeast
13 area over through that section that runs along -- you
14 have a -- basically Republican cities on the top portion
15 of the San Gabriel Valley, but beneath that are a lot of
16 cities that have a lot of Latinos in that area. I think
17 you can reconfigure that area and I think you can come
18 up with four Section 2 seats running all the way over
19 into the East Los Angeles through southeast area. I
20 think it is very doable.

21 Again, I believe that in the Central Valley
22 there is an opportunity, and I think you can do this by
23 not changing Dooley's Democratic registration. Very,
24 very little. Less than half a point. I think you can
25 do that and draw a seat which would be a -- basically a

00406

1 swing seat, that would be a seat that either a
2 Republican or a Democrat can win. And the registration
3 there would be one that I think Republicans and
4 Democrats would both say it probably leans a little
5 Republican, but it could be one of those seats that
6 would be interesting for the future. But the point is,
7 whoever won, either a Democrat or Republican, they would
8 have to pay attention to the Latino community because
9 the Latino community would be a large voting block in
10 that district.

11 I'm just going to finish up with the Assembly,
12 four comments. The 56th I think you should work on.
13 The 49th I have already talked about. I think you
14 should also look at the -- in terms of the Latino
15 community and the Central Valley, I think you should
16 look at the 32nd, and I'm not talking about building a
17 Democratic slam dunk seat. I'm talking about there is
18 an opportunity for the Latino community. It could be an
19 opportunity either where a Republican or a Democrat
20 runs, but the point is you can build a seat where the
21 Latino community would have the ability to influence an
22 election and probably in a very short time have
23 tremendous opportunity to talk to either Republicans or
24 Democrats about ensuring that the person that was
25 elected there paid attention to those concerns without

00407

1 hurting either the 31st or the 32nd -- I mean, sorry,
2 either the 30th or the 31st.

3 As I raised before, this was an issue that came
4 up in 1991, and the special masters in their wisdom
5 rejected packing the 31st seat. They said basically
6 that there is two opportunities. And the reason they
7 said that, again, the Kern County Latino Redistricting
8 Coalition testified before the special masters, before
9 the State Supreme Court, and that district, basically
10 two seats were drawn where there was discussion, and the
11 plan was actually put forth by MALDEF for one seat, and
12 the court in their wisdom put two seats in there
13 currently held by Dean Florez and Sarah Reyes, who both
14 do a good job representing that area.

15 I'm saying that you can also create another
16 seat down there that has opportunities for the Latino
17 community, be it either Republican or a Democrat,
18 whoever reaches out to that community best, and I think
19 that could be done without harming either the 30th or
20 the 31st seat.

21 So -- And to sum up, I think in terms of the
22 African-American community, you really need to take a
23 look at the -- at Congresswoman Diane Watson's seat. I
24 think you need to take a serious look at that. I think
25 you need to take a look at Ed Vincent's seat. Not

00408

1 because he would have a problem, but for the future, and
2 also looking at the 52nd. I don't think, though, you
3 should deal with Carson from 55th. I think that is a
4 mistake.

5 I do appreciate your time, and the reason I
6 wanted to go through this, this is very important to the
7 Latino community. It happens every 10 years and
8 determines how services are delivered to the Latino
9 community statewide. So I want to make my remarks as
10 comprehensive as possible.

11 And again, I welcome any questions, and again,
12 we would like to talk to you if you have any issues and
13 we can be of any help. We would prefer this not to go
14 to court. We would prefer that you treat the Latino
15 community fairly. We would prefer that what happened in
16 1991 will not be repeated.

17 Thank you very much for your time.

18 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
19 Mr. Clayton. We may have questions.

20 Mr. Nakano?

21 ASSEMBLYMEMBER NAKANO: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

22 Hi, Alan.

23 MR. CLAYTON: Hi.

24 ASSEMBLYMEMBER NAKANO: Al and I had worked
25 together 10 years ago when the Coalition of Asian and

00409

1 Pacific Americans For Fair Representation had got
2 involved 10 years ago on the reapportionment process,
3 and I believe at that time Alan was working with
4 MALDEF, if I'm not mistaken.

5 MR. CLAYTON: That is correct.

6 ASSEMBLYMEMBER NAKANO: And that was, I have to
7 tell you, a good experience, and it was a cooperative
8 effort between the Latino and the Asian organizations.

9 Mr. Clayton made comments about ethnic
10 communities being split up. One that he didn't mention
11 was the Asian communities. And historically the Asian
12 communities have been split up, so much so that from
13 1980 to 1992, there was not a single Asian in the state
14 Legislature. And it wasn't until 1992 that Nao
15 Takasugi got elected to the State Assembly, and then after
16 that, in '94, the -- Mike Honda got elected to the
17 Assembly, and then in '98 I got elected.

18 Today we have four Asians representing the
19 State Legislature. That is more than ever in the
20 history of the State of California, and that four
21 represent 13 percent of the population in California.
22 And if there were 13 percent Asian in the State
23 Legislature, there would be 10 Assemblymembers and five
24 State Senators. So, that four represent only 2.7
25 percent of the elected officials of what should be, you

00410

1 know, 15 Asians in the State Legislature if we went --
2 if we compared the population percentage versus what we
3 have. And that is a minuscule number, 2.7 percent. And
4 so it's real important as this process goes forward that
5 we don't continue what had happened in the past where
6 communities -- Asian communities get split up into
7 pieces.

8 In fact, the very seat that I represent right
9 now was the only seat in which the California Supreme
10 Court changed when they were considering changes for the
11 original plan that had been drawn up. And this
12 particular seat at that time split the Asian community
13 in Torrance, and there was a problem in terms of
14 community interest. And had nothing been done about it,
15 it would have still remained split today. And so it's
16 important that we keep in mind that we do not continue
17 what was done in the past, and we need to, you know,
18 address those kind of concerns.

19 MR. CLAYTON: I believe that I said that I
20 agreed with -- just for the record, and I will expand
21 upon it now, I did agree with the statements made
22 regarding the Congressional plan and how they treated
23 the Asian community -- I thought it was shameful -- and
24 the Senate plan in my testimony. But I will go into
25 depth. I thought I made those remarks, but I want to

00411

1 expound upon them.

2 Putting Alhambra in Congressman Becerra's
3 district is an outrage. What you have done is cut up
4 the Asian community. I said that, but I'll be even more
5 blunt about it. What you did there is you chopped the
6 Asian community, the four cities that were discussed in
7 1991. And Assemblyman is right, I was in the
8 negotiations then and I supported, and there was a lot
9 of discussion back then, Monterey Park, San Gabriel,
10 Rosemead and Alhambra being put together. They had been
11 split. And they were in the Congressional, the Senate
12 and the Assembly seat, and I probably supported it back
13 then and I thought that was something important.

14 I do not support what the Congressional plan
15 does to Asians and what the Senate plan does to the
16 Asian community. It makes no sense. You can draw
17 districts that keep those four areas together. And I
18 don't know why they split them up. And how they put
19 Alhambra in Xavier Becerra's district, I don't
20 understand that.

21 I know -- I was looking at the -- I'm glad you
22 brought that up, because I happen to live in San
23 Gabriel. And I thought, you know, they just put me in
24 over -- all the way across -- around Pasadena, where
25 right now I'm happy with my member. I mean, I have

00412

1 known my member for like 15 years. She does an
2 outstanding job as a Congressperson. The Senator I
3 know. And, you know, we are happy with our
4 representation. Why do I, as a San Gabriel person, want
5 to be moved and shipped around, and what they do with
6 the Congressional -- they are cutting up the whole area.
7 It makes no sense.

8 And Chairman Longville, I would really like you
9 to look at that. I did bring it up, but I apologize,
10 should have been more blunt about it like I was with
11 Congressman Watson's, where I said basically I can't
12 believe you did this. I thought I said that but, you
13 know --

14 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: It may have been before
15 Mr. Nakano had come in.

16 MR. CLAYTON: Yeah. I believe I said that for
17 the record, that I did not support what you did and I
18 supported what remarks had been made by the Asian
19 coalition.

20 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Let us note that
21 Mr. Clayton had disagreed with the Congressional and
22 Senatorial plans. I believe you also expressed some
23 concerns about the Assembly plan on the 49th, --

24 MR. CLAYTON: That's correct.

25 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: -- as well. I don't

00413

1 know which concerned Mr. Nakano.

2 Mr. Nakano, was your question answered or --

3 ASSEMBLYMEMBER NAKANO: Yes.

4 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Okay.

5 MR. CLAYTON: The other issue that I had raised
6 previously is San Francisco, where I think you could do
7 a better job for the Asian community. So that was an
8 issue that I raised.

9 Just one other point is I also brought the
10 13th, as far as the Latino community and how the Mission
11 was cut. And I do appreciate it and the -- I think the
12 issue as Assemblyman Nakano has properly raised is you
13 do not want to go in and where you have an established
14 area in Monterey Park, San Gabriel, Rosemead and
15 Alhambra, are established. These -- They are the heart
16 of the Asian community. I know that.

17 If you go down Valley Boulevard, where I go
18 down it every single day, and you look at the stores,
19 the banks, everything, yes, there is a change going on
20 there, and it is a welcome change in that community.
21 Some people resist it. I think that it is great that
22 that community is changing. My only concern there was
23 dealing with the voting-rights issue and when you make
24 the change be respectful of all communities.

25 I appreciate your time. Thank you very much.

00414

1 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
2 Mr. Clayton.

3 Any other questions?

4 Hearing none, our next testimony will be
5 Mr. Bill Magnavern from -- senior legislative
6 representative for the Sierra Club.

7 Is Mr. Magnavern in the room?

8 Okay. Then we move to Helen Grieco, Ms. Helen
9 Grieco, from -- Let's see. She is the -- representing
10 California's chapter of the National Organization For
11 Women. I believe it's National Organization For Women,
12 not Of Women.

13 MS. GRIECO: Yes, it is. It is For Women.

14 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: As a member, I just
15 wanted to make sure that was clear.

16 MS. GRIECO: That's right. Thank you.

17 I'm Helen Grieco. I'm the executive director
18 for the California National Organization For Women and
19 have been working for now -- in California for 17 years.
20 I'm here to testify in opposition to a Senate
21 redistricting plan that will likely result in fewer
22 women in the Legislature in the coming years.

23 There are a variety of women Assemblymembers
24 who under this plan will not have the opportunity to run
25 for Senate seats because they have been placed in Senate

1 seats where they will have little or no chance of
2 victory. And I just want to say we have spoken to a
3 number of women, all of whom have spoken to the
4 committee, but I wanted to point out one woman which is
5 particularly too offensive to us.

6 In the California National Organization For
7 Women, we have Assemblymember Hannah-Beth Jackson, who
8 was our Legislator of the Year for 2000. She is one of
9 the strongest advocates for women and families in the
10 Legislature and she's been put into the Senate district
11 of Tom McClintock, one of the most right-wing anti-woman
12 legislators in California. Assemblymember Jackson's
13 constituents will not be served by this plan, nor will
14 women and families throughout the state who have
15 benefited from her work.

16 California is not a leader in the nation when
17 it comes to electing women. And many of my colleagues
18 here today are discussing representation and
19 percentages, and, you know, let's hope before I die we
20 get parity here anywhere. Give me one mayor district,
21 whatever, I would be happy.

22 We aren't even in the top 20 percent nationwide
23 in terms of the percentage of women serving the State
24 Legislature. As someone who has worked hard to get more
25 women elected into office, I find I disheartening that

00416

1 the Senate plan which, by the way, was drawn by men and
2 will be considered by an all-male conference committee,
3 and in the year 2001, that blows my head off. This
4 would take us backwards instead of forward.

5 In the year 2001, we should be working together
6 to ensure that we increase the number of women in the
7 Legislature. I can't believe that we have to have this
8 discussion about a potential decrease in the number of
9 women in California -- women California legislators. I
10 suggest that you consider the fact that not one of you
11 in this room can be re-elected without the votes of
12 women in your district. And if you won't support women,
13 why should women support you?

14 The Center for American Women in Politics at
15 Rutgers has conducted research about the impact of women
16 in public policy, and the findings are not surprising.
17 Here they are:

18 Having women in State Legislatures does make a
19 difference.

20 Women public officials have different policy
21 priorities than men.

22 Women place more emphasis on issues that affect
23 families and women in particular.

24 Women are more likely to bring constituents and
25 the public in general into the political process.

00417

1 Women are more likely to opt for government in
2 public view rather than government behind closed doors.

3 Women are more responsive to groups previously
4 denied full access to the policymaking process.

5 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Excuse me, ma'am.
6 Because of the court stenographer, we need to have you
7 speak just a little more slowly so she can --

8 MS. GRIECO: It's that New York accent moving
9 right along here.

10 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: It's just fire
11 regulations in here, if she types too fast and her
12 fingers catch fire, we have the marshals coming --

13 MS. GRIECO: I'm hot about this. So you will
14 just have to forgive me.

15 In California, as the number of women
16 legislators has risen, we have seen an increase in
17 funding for things like domestic violence shelters,
18 child care, health care and family planning. We have
19 also seen improvement in a variety of public policy
20 areas that impact women, children and those who are
21 economically disadvantage. Women legislators, with full
22 support from their male colleagues, have strengthened
23 laws against sexual assault and domestic violence, made
24 changes in family law policies and provided safety net
25 programs.

00418

1 On behalf of California now 70,000 contributors
2 and all those in California who care about equal rights,
3 I ask you to redraft the Senate plan before it
4 becomes -- before it comes to the floor -- up to the
5 floor for a vote.

6 And my final comment is we have to work on
7 parity. We have to make sure we fill the pipelines.
8 Many of us would like to vote for a woman President some
9 day, and we would hope that we would fill these
10 pipelines here in California, because we have always had
11 a good shot at that seat. And that is the hope of this
12 organization and I hope the destiny for many good women
13 in the California Legislature today.

14 Thank you.

15 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.

16 And next I have -- let me see -- Amadiz Velez
17 from MALDEF.

18 And, sir, let me -- I'm sorry. I'm sure I'm
19 not quite exactly pronouncing it. Va-les or --

20 MR. VALEZ: Vel-ez.

21 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Vel-ez. Thank you.

22 MR. VELEZ: I just wanted to add some comments
23 from -- from our comments yesterday. Thank you,
24 Chairman Longville, for allowing me to address an area
25 of the state that we were unable to discuss yesterday

00419

1 for lack of time.

2 I did want to mention -- I wanted to start by
3 saying that we, as we mentioned yesterday, do not have
4 the assistance of the MALDEF national redistricting
5 coordinator, Denise Hewitt, today as she is involved in
6 an extensive lawsuit in Texas redistricting. So I will
7 not be able to respond to any questions about the
8 Section 2 or Section 5 analysis that MALDEF has done.
9 However, I did want to talk about the Central Valley.
10 And in particular because it is an area that we
11 conducted -- where we conducted extensive outreach over
12 the last three or four months -- actually, six months.

13 The MALDEF proposal, very similar to the
14 Congressional proposal, at least last Friday, placed the
15 53rd seat in the Central Valley. Now, of course, the
16 Congressional plan released on Friday swapped names and
17 called it the 38th, but in all respects it is, of
18 course, the new seat in California. And it does give a
19 greater voice to electing a community of Tulare County
20 which is one of only two counties in California with
21 over 50-percent Latino population.

22 The residents of Tulare repeatedly testified
23 that they wanted to be inside one Congressional district
24 and one Assembly district and one Senate district, and
25 at least on the Congressional side of things this plan

00420

1 does that. However, the plan proposed by MALDEF and the
2 plan proposed by the Assembly and the Senate does differ
3 in some respects in terms of the areas outside of Tulare
4 County. Particularly, the MALDEF plan goes into a
5 larger portion of Fresno and unites a lot of the
6 communities from Tulare, especially the cities of
7 Visalia and Tulare, with residents and Latino residents
8 from the areas of Fresno, central Fresno, as opposed to
9 the Congressional plan that was released on Friday which
10 puts in a very different community in Clovis with the
11 residents of Tulare County, thereby slightly diminishing
12 the Latino portion of that district and also not uniting
13 quite the same community of interest.

14 So we encourage you to please look at the
15 MALDEF plan, consider the MALDEF plan, and give a
16 greater voice to the Latino community of the Central
17 Valley. Already the district is doing so, but we
18 believe that it did not go far enough, and with very
19 slight changes that do not rearrange an entire drawing
20 of the districts of the Central Valley, even a larger or
21 greater step forward can be made for the Latino
22 community of Tulare County and of Fresno County.

23 With these comments, I just wanted to thank you
24 for your extensive outreach throughout the state, as
25 well. We have been following many of your hearings, and

00421

1 thank you very much.

2 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.

3 We appreciate it, Mr. Velez.

4 The next person I have is Mr. Don Jacobsen of
5 the California Public Interest Research Group, CALPIRG.
6 Is Mr. Jacobsen in the room?

7 All right. We move then to Mr. Rafael Rocha
8 from the Mexican American Graduating Committee. Is
9 Mr. Rocha in the room?

10 All right. We move then to Ms. Susan Jordan
11 with the League for Coastal Protection. Is Ms. Jordan
12 in the room?

13 All right. We then will try Mr. David L.
14 Clementas from the Black American Political Association
15 of California.

16 Okay. We will check if Mr. Bill Magnavern had
17 come in. And then if not, we will be from here on --
18 the remaining witnesses will be heard in remote
19 locations, and those whose names I just called, if they
20 reenter the room, we will fit them in between.

21 So, we will reconvene at 1:00 o'clock. And let
22 me, before anybody disconnects out there, though, let me
23 advise the remote locations to stand by for a roll call,
24 and also note before closing that at the beginning of
25 this session when we reconvene at 1:00, the first thing

00422

1 I will do is just summarize a statement which was
2 submitted from Congresswoman Barbara Lee. We won't read
3 it into the record, but I'll hit the high points of that
4 to get us going when we reconvene.

5 Until 1:00 o'clock, we stand in recess.

6 (Noon recess.)

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 --oOo--

2 (The following pages were reported by
3 Wendy E. Arlen, CSR.)

4 --oOo--

5 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: I'm going to reconvene
6 the hearing. We're back in session and I want to advise
7 folks out at the remote locations that we will be
8 switching from one location to another as we're doing
9 this. I also want to advise everyone out in the remote
10 locations that although various members of the committee
11 will be going in and out of the room throughout the
12 afternoon that the court stenographer is here taking
13 down every word that is said. So all members will have
14 the transcripts of the full testimony that's offered,
15 even if a person is out of the room at the time a
16 particular individual testifies.

17 And as I indicated at the time of the break,
18 before beginning I will just note the testimony that was
19 provided by Congresswoman Barbara Lee and just summarize
20 it. We will put the full testimony in the record, but
21 just note that she indicated her appreciation for the
22 fact that Oakland is now united in the new proposed 9th
23 Congressional District and she makes various flattering
24 remarks about the committee and its intelligence and
25 then goes to indicate those slight areas of disagreement

1 and noted the transfer of Alameda out of the ninth
2 district and addition of the relatively more suburban
3 city of Castro Valley is something which she raises
4 several arguments against, all of which we will put in
5 the record, and she concludes her statement by stating
6 that rather than removing Alameda from the ninth
7 district and compensating for the population loss by
8 adding Castro Valley and some portions of the
9 unincorporated Alameda County, the Legislature can
10 simply leave Alameda in the proposed ninth district and
11 place the bulk of Castro Valley and the appropriate
12 portion of the incorporated area and place it in
13 proposed District 13, and that is the suggestion that
14 she makes. The full text of that letter will go in the
15 record.

16 With that, we are ready to move to LA north,
17 and, Dr. Emil Lawton, are you at the microphone?

18 DR. LAWTON: Yes, I am.

19 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Please go ahead and
20 proceed, sir.

21 DR. LAWTON: Thank you, Chairman, for giving me
22 the opportunity to express our reaction to redistricting
23 maps that's been proposed by legislative leaders.

24 In background, may I mention that I am chair of
25 the Sierra California political committee as well as

1 chair of the Sierra Club California executive committee.
2 That's an elected position. We're the umbrella
3 organization representing all 13 Sierra Club chapters in
4 California.

5 The time schedule for reviewing and analyzing
6 the maps has been rather compressed for us since, as a
7 grassroots organization, we do not have the time to go
8 through and consult with everybody, but we do have
9 questions on all three maps. I shall limit our comments
10 to our objections to the State Senate map as proposed.

11 This map has in effect given over protection of
12 a major section of the California coast to those
13 legislators who have shown hostility to the California
14 Coastal Protection Act. We are particularly concerned
15 about the district proposed from San Francisco Bay area
16 down to Oxnard. The map divides up normal geographic
17 and geopolitical units, areas with common concerns are
18 broken up.

19 Some of you may remember that the Sierra Club
20 joined with the coast many years ago to elect friendly
21 legislators. Even further back, most of you may not
22 remember how the Sierra Club collected signatures
23 relating to the Coastal Protection Act that was intended
24 to preserve the coast for posterity. This work has
25 still not been accomplished and finished. The coast is

1 still at risk, and you have gotten some input already
2 from Assemblyman Keeley, from people up around Santa
3 Cruz where the Senate redistricting is just pretty
4 horrible.

5 As far as further down the coast, you have
6 heard from Hannah-Beth Jackson and Senator O'Connell,
7 and you understand pretty much there how vicious this is
8 to the representation of friendly legislators and their
9 ability to in the future protect the coast.

10 We understand that there are difficulties in
11 balancing so many diverse factors and being fair to both
12 parties and to the incumbents. However, in crafting the
13 safe seats for incumbents, this balance has just been
14 abandoned. Consequently, for these and other reasons,
15 we respectfully request that the legislators go back and
16 withdraw those maps. Thank you.

17 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
18 sir. We appreciate your taking the time to come here
19 today and we'll take a look at it and hopefully your
20 concerns will be reflected. Thank you again.

21 Let me ask, the next witness from the same
22 location I believe is Ms. Joan Leonard.

23 MS. LEONARD: Hi, my name is Joan Leonard. I
24 live in Sherman Oaks and I am a Democratic grassroots
25 activist here in the San Fernando Valley.

1 I have listened to individuals and officials
2 all over the state address the committee over the last
3 two days and I have what heard is disheartening. Dozens
4 of wholly disenfranchised groups whose geographic
5 integrity and community interests have been separated,
6 fractured and diluted, all to achieve what is frankly a
7 partisan political gain. No wonder we are so stunned.

8 For the last decade across the entire state we
9 have enjoyed reasonably compact districts that meet a
10 general standard for what is called communities of
11 interest. Those 1991 districts were drawn by appointees
12 of the court rather than our elected officials in
13 Sacramento, and turning the process back to the
14 politicians is serving as a stark reminder as to why we
15 were so well served by keeping them out of it last time.

16 Reviewing the plans proposed last week, it's
17 obvious. Regardless of the consequences to the public
18 good, in the hands of politicians the first rule was to
19 create boundaries to provide a cushion of voters for the
20 party currently in office in each proposed district.
21 That is, make Democratic seats more safe for Democrats
22 and Republican seats more safe for Republicans, even if
23 it means, as it does, bringing in dissimilar towns and
24 populations with fragile connections geographically or
25 even conflicting interests, splitting neighborhoods and

1 constituencies with common critical issues and proximate
2 concerns, dividing cohesive ethnic groups and
3 communities that ordinarily work together in close
4 collaboration and eliminating geographic continuity and
5 compactness.

6 What is derived from this formulation is truly
7 sad. With so many districts showing an overwhelming
8 advantage in voter registration for one party or the
9 other, almost every district and all district elections
10 in the State of California will now be decided in the
11 primary of the dominant party in each district. Any
12 system that becomes in essence a one-party system, even
13 from district to district, answers to no one but the
14 party apparatus.

15 It's hard to imagine that anyone here needs to
16 be reminded of this since the essence of our country's
17 political survival has been a two- and sometimes
18 three-party system. But when there is no competition
19 between parties, not only do ideas and debates disappear
20 and the levels of voter participation decline further,
21 but the need for an elected official to respond to the
22 constituents takes a back seat to party dictates,
23 especially when a party so strongly holds soft money
24 campaign purse strings as it does here in California.

25 This plan truly disenfranchises all

1 Californians to chart their own destinies through their
2 elected officials. To sanction, let alone propose, such
3 a plan is a direct breach of the public trust, it's
4 contrary to serving the stated goal of redistricting to
5 create districts first and foremost of communities of
6 interest, not party dominance and should be challenged
7 in the courts.

8 The lack of meaningful and consolidated
9 representative that all three plans pose for the San
10 Fernando Valley where I live and from where I'm speaking
11 is horrendous. I will leave the specifics of those
12 issues to the other speakers and only say that what is
13 clear is that we share our frustrations with others
14 around the state.

15 I address my remarks more so for the public
16 record than to the elected officials who have drawn up
17 these egregiously flawed and self-serving plans and
18 whose self-interest led to the creation of this mess and
19 prevents them from being the agents of its repair. Send
20 it to the courts.

21 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
22 Ms. Leonard. And our next witness will be Councilmember
23 Jonathan Sharkey from the City of Port Hueneme.
24 Councilmember Sharkey, good to see you again.

25 MR. SHARKEY: Good to see you again, too. Good

1 afternoon, Mr. Chair, members of the committee. I'm
2 going to be very parochial here and speak about Ventura
3 County and the impact the proposed redistricting plan
4 has on Ventura County.

5 I'm not going to dwell on the issues of ethnic
6 fragmentation and to the point of disenfranchisement as
7 there are others who can speak with greater authority on
8 that; however, I'd like to point out that there is a
9 serious concern and needs to be looked at in the most
10 serious manner when we come to looking at the district
11 lines in Ventura County.

12 What I would like to talk about is the Little
13 Hoover Commission. Some of us remember a couple years
14 back the Little Hoover Commission did an analysis of the
15 over 6,000 political units in the State of California,
16 all the special districts and water agencies, everything
17 that people vote for, and they had many recommendations,
18 and one of the recommendations they had was a
19 rationalization of district boundaries. Political
20 boundaries should be rationalized so that people would
21 know that they would be served by a school district in a
22 certain city, they'd be served by a certain water
23 district, there would be accountability to the voters.

24 Well, as I read the map that's been proposed
25 for Ventura County, let's do a hypothetical analysis

1 here. There are two neighbors in the City of Oxnard.
2 One of them lives on the east side of Ventura Road and
3 the other lives on the west side of Ventura Road and
4 these neighbors get together and one walks across the
5 street and talks to the other and he says, oh ho, even
6 though our kids go to the same school, we have the same
7 police department, fire department, city council, we
8 have no community of interest. My community of interest
9 is Los Angeles. And his neighbor says, oh, no, but my
10 community of interest is Santa Barbara.

11 Well, where is the rationalization of political
12 boundaries here? Because what happens is neither one of
13 these neighbors is likely to be represented by someone
14 from his own community because the political weight in
15 those districts is in fact in Los Angeles and is in fact
16 in Santa Barbara.

17 Now, the very, very able George Runner this
18 morning started off talking about the integrity of the
19 cities. That's an important concept. And if we go back
20 to the Little Hoover Commission, the rationalization of
21 political boundaries, we have to take this into account,
22 and it's not -- and I want to make sure very clear.
23 This is not about the incumbent representatives because
24 I know them all, I work with them all, I respect them
25 all. I would be pleased to have any of them represent

1 me now. This is looking ahead down the next 10 years of
2 the future when we have the City of Oxnard, already the
3 largest city between Los Angeles and San Jose, a growing
4 population, a growing Latino population, a growing
5 economy that is growing not only more independent, but
6 actually is developing more in common in the community
7 of interest sense with the City of Santa Barbara than
8 the City of Los Angeles.

9 Sometimes I think the folks in Sacramento seem
10 to think of Ventura County as just another part of LA.
11 You know, it's just a little bit beyond Encino, but
12 we're very, very different. And I would like to look at
13 four central cities in Ventura County: Santa Paula,
14 Fillmore, Oxnard and Port Hueneme. These are all
15 working class cities with median incomes in the \$30,000
16 range, the largest Latino population, in Oxnard and
17 Santa Paula we're looking at 60 to 70 percent Latino.

18 In this current plan they're divided among
19 three Assembly districts and two Senate districts. This
20 raises a serious question on community of interest and
21 it raises a serious question on ethnic representation.
22 When we heard this morning from our Assemblymember
23 Jackson and Senator O'Connell and Naomi Schwartz.
24 They're all good friends with me. I've worked with them
25 on many issues, and I never disagree with anything they

1 say, and I certainly agreed with their testimony on the
2 Senate District as well.

3 I'm a member of the majority party. We would
4 like to call ourselves the party of inclusion, but when
5 I look at the fragmentation that's taking place in
6 Ventura County, quite frankly, I'm embarrassed.
7 Mr. Chairman, this plan needs a lot more work. It needs
8 to go in the shop because this bird will not fly. Thank
9 you.

10 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much
11 Councilmember Sharkey. We appreciate you giving us the
12 additional information, and we'll be coming back for
13 more comments on the north LA area in a little while,
14 but right now we're moving over to San Bernardino.

15 And, Mr. Wyman, I believe you had wanted to
16 introduce perhaps Supervisor Postmas. And so,
17 Supervisor Postmas, if you can stand by for one moment,
18 your Assemblymember Wyman would like to introduce you.

19 ASSEMBLYMEMBER WYMAN: Well, thank you,
20 Chairman Longville, and I appreciate the fact that
21 representatives from the Victor Valley are going to have
22 a chance to express their concerns led by a delegation
23 headed by High Desert supervisor Bill Postmas. I
24 understand my friends Mayor Dale from Barstow is there
25 and Mayor Jim Lindley is there in person from Hesperia.

1 I have expressed concerns to the leadership of
2 this committee and members of my caucus as well that we
3 need to be sure that the Victor Valley, the communities
4 of Adelanto, Victorville, Apple Valley and Hesperia are
5 relevant for this next decade, that a High Desert
6 candidate that seeks to be represented here in
7 Sacramento has a shot at doing that, and I know that
8 from comments throughout the Victor Valley that there is
9 concern about the current configuration.

10 So I appreciate the fact that I believe
11 Mr. Postmas and his delegation will making some brief
12 statements for the committee. I understand there are
13 actually several others, maybe seven or eight. Let me
14 let those folks begin and return my comments and the
15 floor to the chair. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for giving
16 me this opportunity.

17 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
18 Supervisor Postmas, if you can just clear your throat,
19 that will activate your microphone and actually cause
20 our camera to switch to your location.

21 SUPERVISOR POSTMAS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
22 It's good to be here in your district, Mr. Chairman.
23 We're with you were here today in hot Southern
24 California. I'd like to thank you for allowing me and
25 our delegation today to share some thoughts with you on

1 proposed Assembly, Senate and Congressional District
2 maps.

3 As you know, the Constitution requires to us
4 reapportion our legislative districts every 10 years and
5 the three main elements of the reapportionment process
6 are equal districts determined by the census of the
7 population, contiguous districts and communities of
8 interest.

9 The current proposed maps clearly violates the
10 communities of interest, in our opinion, rule by
11 dividing the High Desert portion of San Bernardino
12 County into four different Assembly districts. These
13 districts are dominated by population centers in the
14 Palmdale and Lancaster area in the 36th district,
15 Visalia in the 34th district, which is about 200 miles
16 northwest, Redlands in the 63rd district and then the
17 whole 34th district which I talked about.

18 They also violate the contiguous rule by
19 disregarding existing political boundaries such as city,
20 county lines, topographic, geographic boundaries such as
21 the Cajon Pass and San Bernardino and the San Gabriel
22 mountain ranges.

23 With the creation of the 34th Assembly District
24 back in 1992, the Victor Valley area, which consists of
25 roughly 300,000 individuals, was happy to have and

1 finally achieve a long-sought Assembly District and
2 being able to provide a population center for its own
3 Assembly District. The result was the prompt election
4 of a Victor Valley resident to the State Assembly for
5 the first time in recent memory.

6 One likely effect of the current Assembly
7 districts which are proposed, particularly the Assembly
8 map, is the creation of a situation where small cities
9 and rural areas would be dominated by much larger urban
10 center populations many, many miles away, in some cases
11 up to 200 miles away. My supervisorial district alone
12 under the current proposed plan would be represented by
13 five different assemblymembers. That's five different
14 assemblymembers all from districts whose majority
15 populations are located from out of my district and
16 sometimes out of even San Bernardino County.

17 By slicing neighboring cities of Victorville,
18 Apple Valley, Hesperia, Adelanto, Twentynine Palms,
19 Barstow into four different Assembly districts, these
20 communities could suffer and will suffer the loss of a
21 unified voice in Sacramento and Washington, D. C. All
22 the currently proposed maps, Assembly, Senate and our
23 Congressional, would make it excessively difficult to
24 elect a High Desert representative to office.

25 The committee can remedy the current negative

1 situation by redrawing the reapportionment maps to
2 reflect communities of interest. Like I stated,
3 communities of interest where the High Desert districts
4 reflect economic, political, governmental, topographic,
5 geographic and sociogeographic concerns and political
6 perspectives. I would just please ask the committee to
7 please consider our thoughts and keep the whole High
8 Desert intact.

9 The cities of Barstow and Victorville and
10 Twentynine Palms and Apple Valley and Hesperia and
11 Adelanto and Needles all together have a population of
12 over 300,000 people. With the current reapportionment
13 maps, they could stand to lose much more of their voice
14 and High Desert interests.

15 Mr. Chairman, thank you very much.

16 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
17 Supervisor Postmas, for taking the time to come over to
18 Valley College today to testify.

19 Next I believe we have Mayor Lawrence Dale from
20 Barstow.

21 MAYOR DALE: Good afternoon, Chairman Longville
22 and members of the committee. I'm Mayor Lawrence E.
23 Dale of the City of Barstow. I'm here to testify on the
24 draft Assembly, State Senate and Congressional Districts
25 that were released last week.

1 First, I would like to thank the committee for
2 making it easier for us to make our views known by
3 scheduling the hearing in San Bernardino instead of
4 requiring us to come to Sacramento. This is a laudable
5 effort in inclusiveness.

6 Unfortunately, I cannot say the same for draft
7 Assembly, Senate and Congressional Districts that we
8 received last week. As we understand, the purpose of
9 the redistricting is threefold: to satisfy the
10 requirements of one person one vote; to avoid to the
11 greatest extent possible the dilution of minority votes,
12 i.e., to avoid any discriminatory intent or effect in
13 redrawing districts; and, lastly and most importantly,
14 to avoid dividing communities of interest.

15 The proposed districts would splinter the
16 community of interest known locally as the High Desert.
17 It flies in the face of several court decisions which
18 have emphasized compactness and continuity and respects
19 for political subdivision, Wilson versus Eu and Shaw
20 versus Reno, respect for communities defined by actual
21 shared interest with Miller versus Johnson, maintaining
22 territorial boundaries in Bush versus Vera and
23 maintaining district cores in Abrams versus Johnson.
24 Thus, the courts clearly recognize as important the
25 protection of community interests.

1 The proposed district fails to do this. In
2 light of this failure, I urge that the proposed
3 redistricting be revised to keep the High Desert
4 together in one Assembly District, one State Senate
5 District and one Congressional District.

6 I thank you for the opportunity and your
7 attention.

8 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
9 Mr. Mayor. Next we have Apple Valley councilmember Mark
10 Shoup, I believe.

11 MR. SHOUP: Yes, thank you Mr. Chairman. Thank
12 you, members of the committee, for allowing us to speak
13 to you today from San Bernardino.

14 Assemblyman Wyman, thank you for your comments.
15 We appreciate you being here and listening to us and
16 expressing our opinions.

17 ASSEMBLYMEMBER WYMAN: Thank you, Mayor Shoup,
18 I'm glad to know that you are present.

19 MR. SHUPE: Thank you. Supervisor Postmas and
20 Mayor Dale have laudably and accurately explained to you
21 members of the committee some of the problems that we in
22 the High Desert have with the redistricting as proposed.
23 My comments are not directed to the same areas as theirs
24 are, but that should not be interpreted to mean that I
25 don't share their concerns, because I do.

1 I'm here specifically to speak to you about
2 Assembly District No. 63 which Apple Valley would be a
3 part of under the current proposal. Apple Valley sticks
4 out like the sore thumb at the top of Assembly District
5 No. 63, is surrounded on three sides by Assembly
6 District No. 36. Assembly District No. 63 would include
7 Victorville and Adelanto and also include parts of the
8 Los Angeles County portion of the High Desert.

9 The problem that I have with respect to the
10 Apple Valley is a technical one in nature and perhaps
11 one that can be remedied by the committee without having
12 to resort to wholesale redrawing of district lines in
13 other areas.

14 The municipality of Apple Valley is a town, is
15 an incorporated community of 56,000 people, but it has a
16 surrounding sphere of influence in unincorporated parts
17 of the County of San Bernardino, consists of another
18 2,500 registered voters, including a portion of the
19 unincorporated area under which an incorporation
20 proceeding is going on as we speak.

21 What I fear will happen, members of the
22 committee, is that if the current lines are maintained
23 as they are drawn and proposed for District 63 and
24 District 36 what will happen is that portions of the
25 incorporated areas of Apple Valley will be included in

1 one Assembly District and the unincorporated portions of
2 Apple Valley will be included in a completely separate
3 Assembly District. And as Apple Valley incorporates
4 more areas, part of the municipal boundaries of the town
5 of Apple Valley will be in one Assembly District,
6 District 63 as proposed, while the newer portions that
7 are incorporated in over the next 10 years would find
8 themselves in the District No. 36.

9 I think that this problem can be remedied by a
10 simple redrawing of that portion of the district line
11 that puts unincorporated Apple Valley into District No.
12 36, while leaving incorporated Apple Valley in District
13 No. 63, take that portion of Apple Valley that would be
14 in unincorporated areas that would be in 36, put them in
15 63. You're talking about 2500 registered voters. At
16 least in that way you do not violate the incorporated
17 community of Apple Valley. You do not violate the
18 principle of a single community being split up into two
19 separate districts.

20 To the extent that the proposal before us today
21 attempts to keep municipalities together in one
22 district, I applaud it. I ask you that you try to keep
23 Apple Valley together as one community and one Assembly
24 District rather than split us up into two separate
25 districts.

1 Otherwise, I believe the comments made about
2 how these proposed districts do injustice to the entire
3 Victor Valley by other members, both who have already
4 spoken and are going to be speak, are going to be
5 effectively stated by others.

6 I would just point out in the proposed Senate
7 districts that we have the unincorporated areas of Apple
8 Valley are already included in the same district as the
9 incorporated areas.

10 As to the proposed Congressional District, that
11 would be District 40, the district represented by Jerry
12 Lewis, that district remains. All of Apple Valley, both
13 unincorporated and incorporated, remain in the district.
14 We appreciate that. I'm asking you to consider
15 adjusting district lines 63 and 36 so that
16 unincorporated and incorporated Apple Valley remain
17 together. Otherwise, fellow representatives from the
18 High Desert and I, I think, share the common goals as
19 far as what we're they're going to talk to you about.
20 Thank you.

21 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
22 Councilmember Shoup. I should note, by the way, for the
23 folks down in Valley College there that Assemblymember
24 Bill Leonard is also sitting here on the panel. I just
25 want you to know you've got others from your local area

1 that are paying attention to what's being said.

2 Assemblymember Leonard, did you have a quick
3 question?

4 ASSEMBLYMEMBER LEONARD: I did have a question.
5 The mayor raised an excellent point regarding territory
6 that's sphere of influence in the process of being
7 annexed. Mr. Wyman brought that up earlier.

8 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: I think you're talking
9 about Councilmember Shoup or Mayor Dale?

10 ASSEMBLYMEMBER LEONARD: Excuse me.
11 Councilmember Shoup from Apple Valley.

12 MR. SHOUP: Thank you, Assemblyman Leonard.

13 ASSEMBLYMEMBER LEONARD: Are we committed to
14 when we receive official information about a sphere of
15 influence territory of working to see if we can include
16 that so we don't split a city prospectively during the
17 decade?

18 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: The best of my
19 knowledge, the first time that this has been really
20 seriously attempted. I know in our Assembly plans, I
21 haven't talked to the Senate staff on this, so I'm not
22 sure if they've done the same thing, but I know in our
23 Assembly plans very early on we sought that information
24 all around the state. I'm pleased because it was my
25 idea.

1 And I don't know that we were able to follow it
2 every place, but we made that one of the factors that we
3 put in. All else being not a problem, that where we
4 could do so, we tried to follow sphere of influence
5 lines so that annexations would not take a city that
6 currently is not split into districts and put it midway
7 through the decade into two districts. I don't believe
8 we were able to do it everywhere, but we were able to do
9 it, I know, in some significant locations.

10 ASSEMBLYMEMBER LEONARD: I appreciate that and
11 the fact that we've now got the official notice from the
12 city through Mr. Wyman, if we can do that, I would
13 certainly recommend it. It affects obviously my
14 district, but I think it's appropriate that if we have
15 notice about a city that might end up being split that
16 we take action that's appropriate.

17 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Absolutely.

18 ASSEMBLYMAN WYMAN: Mr. Chairman?

19 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Yes.

20 ASSEMBLYMAN WYMAN: For those and, Mayor Shoup,
21 working with your excellent staff in the town of Apple
22 Valley, we have secured a map, and I have submitted it
23 to the Chair as you were speaking, that identified that
24 between 2500 and 3500 people that would be within the
25 sphere. So at least on the smaller microlevel we can

1 cure that correction.

2 I thank you for your diligence, and that
3 material has been submitted to the Chair of this
4 committee.

5 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you for taking
6 the time to be here. I believe we have also addressing
7 perhaps some of the same subjects because it will be in
8 the same area from the City of Hesperia Mayor Jim
9 Lindley. Please go ahead, sir.

10 MAYOR LINDLEY: Thank you. I also am going to
11 echo some of the issues brought forth by previous
12 testimony. I'll begin with the annexation issue that
13 Councilmember Shoup brought up. Also, in the City of
14 Hesperia we've been working for about eight years to
15 complete a community plan for the area of Oak Hills on
16 both the east and west side of Interstate 15.

17 Currently the City of Hesperia is about 69
18 square miles in size with about 64,000 people. The area
19 of Oak Hills that we are just completing the community
20 plan on and plan to annex in the near future is about 24
21 square miles with another 5500 people. This is excluded
22 from the current lines of the 63rd district and is
23 included in the 36th Assembly District.

24 I think that particular issue for the City of
25 Hesperia bears some attention. These are people that

1 come regularly to our city council meetings for their
2 issues. We regularly address their issues as our water
3 district is also overlapping in that area, our school
4 district and so forth. We have a community of interest
5 there.

6 The second issue I'd like to raise is the issue
7 of continuity with community of interest in the Victor
8 Valley. The Victor Valley, all these cities that we're
9 talking about, Adelanto, Victorville, Apple Valley,
10 Hesperia, are all contiguous cities. We have a
11 bipartisan delegation here. We have representatives
12 from councils that are both Republican and Democrat that
13 feel the same way, that we should keep the High Desert
14 region in one Assembly District so that we have that
15 type of representation.

16 We have problems, as you know, in the High
17 Desert that are unique to the High Desert. The 63rd
18 district, as it's currently stated, takes two cities in
19 in the High Desert, comes over the mountains, goes into
20 the San Bernardino Valley and then dips all the way down
21 into Riverside County. Although we do have some common
22 interests with these communities, I believe our
23 commonalities and our interests in the High Desert,
24 specifically water, revolve around the communities in
25 the Victor Valley as well as Barstow.

1 The last issue is the representation of the
2 county I'd like to bring up. Four or five Assembly
3 Districts for one supervisorial district is really
4 counterproductive for representation in the State
5 Legislature, and I would just like to say that on behalf
6 of the councilmembers and people of Hesperia, we would
7 like to see a redrawing of the lines that includes all
8 of the High Desert cities in one district for
9 representation purposes. Thank you.

10 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
11 Mayor. We appreciate your taking the time again to
12 drive down over the hill down into San Bernardino to
13 provide testimony in pursuit of the possibility you
14 won't have to drive down as often.

15 So we now will be moving to San Diego for the
16 next witnesses, and we will, I believe, be returning or
17 may be returning, I hope, to San Bernardino. I assume
18 we have some more witnesses there. But for right now
19 we're going to San Diego and I have as our next witness
20 Andrew Shogren I believe will be speaking along with
21 another representative from CAPAFR, Arlie Ricasa.
22 Excuse me if I'm mispronouncing your names here. And
23 then also I'm not sure if there is a third person that's
24 speaking as part of the same group. I have a note here
25 that says one of a group of three speakers.

1 So I would ask if Mr. Andrew Shogren can be
2 ready at the mike, and if you're speaking with someone
3 else, go ahead and introduce them and please feel free
4 to begin at this time.

5 MR. SHOGREN: Good afternoon and thank you,
6 Honorable Committee and Honorable Chairman. There will
7 just be two of us speaking from CAPAFR San Diego.

8 My name is Andrew Shogren. I'm testifying on
9 the behalf of the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans
10 for Fair Redistricting San Diego. I'm the member of
11 fair share for the Asian Business Association of San
12 Diego, I serve on the executive board for the Southwest
13 Center for Asian Pacific American Law. I also am a
14 member of San Diego Mayor Murphy's Asian Pacific
15 Islander Citizens Advisory Board.

16 I'd like to thank the committee for holding
17 this hearing and specifically for setting up satellite
18 link here in San Diego.

19 To remind the committee, CAPAFR San Diego is a
20 diverse coalition of Asian Pacific Islander Americans
21 that have been meeting since last summer to work and
22 form maps for the San Diego region. Over the many
23 months we've been meeting, CAPAFR San Diego has included
24 or outreached to many members of the many groups
25 including the Asian Business Association, the Pacific

1 Islander Festival Association, the Southwest Center for
2 Asian Pacific American Law, the Center for Policy

3 Initiative and many others.

4 I've been a part of the CAPAFR San Diego group
5 since it first came together last summer. Many members
6 are part of many organizations here in San Diego and
7 since last fall our efforts have been coordinated with
8 the Asian Pacific American Legal Center in Los Angeles.

9 We have been working to ensure that the APIA
10 community voice is heard in this redistricting process.
11 When we last appeared before you in May, we articulated
12 four goals: Unite Mira Mesa, which is currently divided
13 into two Assembly Districts; if possible keep the areas
14 between Mira Mesa and Linda Vista in the same Assembly
15 District; unite the City of Chula Vista; and, fourth,
16 unite Chula Vista, Paradise Hills and Bonita into the
17 same district.

18 The current maps do unite Mira Mesa, but in
19 many areas the maps are problematic for the Asian
20 Pacific American community in San Diego and here are
21 some of the reasons. The other goals were not met.
22 Mira Mesa is in the 75th and Linda Vista is in the new
23 78th. The City of Chula Vista remains divided. The
24 communities of Chula Vista, Paradise Hills and Bonita
25 are further divided. They are now in the 76th, 77th and

1 79th Assembly Districts, respectively. Before they had
2 been in two Assembly Districts. While Mira Mesa is
3 united by placing it in the 75th Assembly District, it
4 is isolated from the natural communities of interest it
5 shares in San Diego such as Linda Vista.

6 Previously, Asian Pacific communities in San
7 Diego were divided among four Assembly districts. Now
8 they are divided among five Assembly districts. Our
9 communities here in San Diego, our Asian Pacific
10 American communities are further divided, not united.

11 And, finally, on May 4th we asked that you keep
12 our communities whole. We urged you to learn about and
13 respect the boundaries of cohesive minority communities
14 and not split our communities across multiple Assembly
15 districts. The current map in its present form in many
16 ways ignores this.

17 As an example, Linda Vista is alone an Asian
18 Pacific American community in the 78th, Mira Mesa as an
19 Asian Pacific American community is isolated in the
20 75th, and eastern Chula Vista is isolated in the 77th.
21 The largest concentrations of Asian Pacific American
22 voters in San Diego County are isolated. Their votes
23 are split. Their voices may not be heard.

24 We are equally concerned that communities of
25 interest be held together. We have identified where San

1 Diego's Asian Pacific Islander American communities are
2 and we share their many common interests. We urge you
3 to respect these communities of interest and unite us
4 with other areas in the region with which we share
5 interests.

6 The current maps bring together urban and
7 suburban communities with disparate communities such as
8 Ramona, Jacumbo and Borrego Springs. We ask you keep
9 our communities whole and link our communities with
10 others with which we share common interests.

11 While we realize that the current map does not
12 achieve many of our goals, we believe changes can be
13 made to help some of the communities remain whole and to
14 join some Asian Pacific American communities that share
15 common interests.

16 To help unite some of our communities, we are
17 asking you to unite National City with Paradise Hills
18 and the naval housing there, Bay Terraces, Alta Vista
19 and the part of Bonita Avenue in the 79th Assembly
20 District. Arlie Ricasa will speak on why these
21 communities should be joined.

22 It is unfortunate that many of our communities
23 have been divided and isolated from their natural
24 communities of interest. We have been welcome and taken
25 part in this redistricting process, and I am

1 disappointed that the results have further fractured and
2 diluted the Asian Pacific American communities here in
3 San Diego. Thank you.

4 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you for taking
5 the time to come and speak with us today. We greatly
6 appreciate it.

7 Is that Arlie Ricasa next?

8 MS. RICASA: Mr. Chairman, my name is Arlie
9 Ricasa. Thank you this afternoon for having us speak.
10 The last time we had opportunity to speak to you, I was
11 two weeks from delivering my third child. I don't know
12 if you can recall that, Mr. Chairman.

13 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Ms. Ricasa, not only do
14 I remember it, my recollection is that I urged you to
15 have had the child a little earlier to increase our
16 count so we could maybe get another Congressional
17 District.

18 MS. RICASA: Definitely, but remember I
19 couldn't help on you that one.

20 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: I remember that. I
21 remember that well.

22 MS. RICASA: She was born very healthy and she
23 is contributing to the next census report.

24 Again, my name is Arlie Ricasa, and I'm glad to
25 be here today on behalf of CAPAFR San Diego. I've been

1 involved with the process since last summer, and just to
2 let you know, I am currently trustee for the Sweetwater
3 Union High School District, which is the largest
4 secondary school district in the State of California. I
5 also sit as a board of directors for the Children and
6 Police Activities League as well as Metropolitan Area
7 Advisory Committee of San Diego County.

8 It's very important a couple of reasons that I
9 come to you today as well as Mr. Shogren has shared with
10 you is looking at our communities and keeping them whole
11 and looking at the communities of interest. I, too, was
12 very pleased to be a part of this process and
13 understanding what redistricting does for the state, but
14 particularly for the areas of the South Bay, what we
15 consider the South Bay and San Diego. Those are the
16 communities traditional known as National City, Chula
17 Vista, South San Diego, Otay, Nestor, San Ysidro, et
18 cetera.

19 It's very important that the legislators take a
20 look again at the map to look at our communities of
21 interest. There are several areas that why we are
22 wanting to have those areas included together. A big
23 part of it is that of education.

24 As I mentioned the Sweetwater Union High School
25 District is the largest secondary district in

1 California. We have five feeder elementary schools.
2 This area is the only area that holds a community
3 college. So that's the only area of higher education in
4 the South Bay, Southwestern Community College of which
5 I'm a faculty member of.

6 The transportation, the public transportation
7 process has ultimately defined within these areas from
8 National City down to the ends of Otay, Nestor, San
9 Ysidro and so forth.

10 The other big component of our community is the
11 development of the new project synergy which the
12 legislature has been very supportive of, and that is
13 creating the nine through 16 educational program with
14 Sweetwater District, Southwestern Community College and
15 San Diego State University.

16 Again, these are critical because of the unique
17 relationship that community holds with each other. The
18 cultural identity of the South Bay, and when we look in
19 terms of the Asian Pacific Islander community, is that
20 of strong, intense cultural representation in the
21 National City-Paradise Hills area where in history we
22 also have a large military presence of our families that
23 have come here through the military, but many of our
24 stores, our grocery system, our churches, things of that
25 nature, are very well tied together.

1 So we are asking that you do look at these
2 Assembly lines one more time, keeping these areas such
3 as Chula Vista, Bonita, National City, Paradise Hills
4 together as community of the South Bay. This will have
5 a better representation, and better not only for the
6 Asian Pacific Islander community, but I believe for
7 everyone that is represented there.

8 Thank you for your time and I look forward to
9 hearing some possible changes in this venture. Thank
10 you much.

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 (Whereupon, the following proceedings were
2 reported by Leigh Ann Orozco:)

3 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much for
4 taking the time to come a second time and testify to us.
5 Again, as I have mentioned earlier, all of the comments
6 that we are receiving are being taken down and will be
7 provided to each of the six members of the conference
8 committee who will be working out the final details on
9 these maps and making changes which I hope will make --
10 will satisfy at least a good number of the people
11 speaking today.

12 And next we have, I believe, Kevin Davis.

13 MR. DAVIS: Yes, Mr. Chairman. My name is
14 Kevin Davis. I'm vice president for political action of
15 the San Diego Democratic Club, but I'm speaking on my
16 own behalf today. My remarks concern the 49th
17 Congressional district represented by Susan Davis and
18 the 76th Assembly district represented by Chris Kehoe.

19 When I first saw the 49th Congressional
20 district, the new proposed district, I thought it was a
21 mistake, and I was ready to call someone up on the staff
22 and say, "You have the wrong map on that link." As it
23 is currently proposed, part of the district is the --
24 part of the City of San Diego, the second largest city
25 in the state, and the other part of the district is the

00457

1 entire Imperial County, which I do not believe is a good
2 match.

3 In the City of San Diego, we are concerned
4 about coastal issues, about issues concerning the Navy
5 and other issues typical of a densely populated urban
6 area. In Imperial County, I imagine they are concerned
7 with agricultural issues and other concerns to rural
8 voters, in that in San Diego we have a farmers' market,
9 but I don't believe we have any farms. And I can't
10 imagine how an individual could represent people in both
11 of those areas and how that individual's staff
12 could deliver constituent services to such a large and
13 contiguous area.

14 In the 76th Assembly district, I presented a
15 map at the last hearing in San Diego that showed the
16 areas of concern to the gay community -- the gay,
17 lesbian, bisexual and transsexual community. I said
18 that there were some areas in the 76th Assembly district
19 that were in the -- that were part of the gay community
20 and some areas that were not. And now in this new
21 proposed district, some of the areas that we proposed
22 were added, but some other areas were taken out and
23 other areas were not added, and as well as some of the
24 inland areas of San Diego County were added to the 76th
25 district, and I believe that those area are not as

00458

1 friendly to the GOBT community as other areas could be.

2 So, I would respectfully request that you add
3 the areas that we have identified as having highly --
4 as having a high concentration of GOBT voters.

5 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

6 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
7 We appreciate you taking the time as well, Mr. Davis, to
8 come in, and we will carefully note your remarks and
9 hopefully we can accommodate them. I can't guarantee
10 it, but I certainly know we will attempt to.

11 And we will be moving next to Santa Ana, but
12 before we do that, despite my great love for
13 San Bernadino and wanting to hear everything I can from
14 there, I'm advised by staff that if the San Bernardino
15 folks can moot their microphone, it will improve the
16 audio quality from whichever site we are moving to next,
17 which happens to be Santa Ana.

18 So, if Lan Quoc Nguyen, Esquire, from
19 Westminster, from the CAPAFR of Vietnamese Americans for
20 Fair Redistricting Committee -- Let's see. Lan Quoc
21 Nguyen. I'm sorry if I'm mispronouncing your name, sir
22 or ma'am. I don't know which. Please go ahead and
23 speak up so we can get you on --

24 MR. NGUYEN: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

25 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you.

1 MR. NGUYEN: My name is Lan Nguyen. I'm an
2 attorney and also an activist for the Vietnamese-
3 American communities of Orange County, and I'm also a
4 coordinator of the Vietnamese American for Fair
5 Redistricting Committees. We were formed to oversee the
6 redistricting matters on behalf of the Vietnamese
7 communities in Orange County.

8 To this projects we have been working with the
9 Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern
10 California. As part -- and also Asian and Pacific
11 Islander Coalitions -- I mean, I'm sorry, Community
12 Alliance, also know as CAPAFR, as part of the Coalitions
13 of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting in
14 Orange County. The project is to develop a sensible
15 redistricting plan that is acceptable to all affected
16 communities.

17 We have reviewed proposed State Assembly
18 district and also the State Senate district plans, and
19 we -- on behalf of this community, and we pay particular
20 interest in District -- Assembly District 68 and the
21 Senate District 34. I want to comment on the proposed
22 plans to those two districts.

23 At this time we acknowledge as to the Assembly
24 District 68, we acknowledge it is a good step in the
25 right direction in keeping together the Vietnamese

00460

1 community and also creating as to one district as a
2 community of common interest.

3 However, as to the Assembly District 68, we
4 would like to propose that the plan be modified to
5 include the remainder of the City of Garden Grove,
6 particularly east of (inaudible) Street and Harbor
7 Boulevard and north of the borderline with City of Santa
8 Ana. This revision can be accomplished by excluding
9 portion of the City of Huntington Beach, Costa Mesa and
10 also Newport Beach. This later portions are part of the
11 coastal area or the beach city which do not serve the
12 common interest with the remainder of District 68. This
13 revision will also minimize the splitting of the cities,
14 of political boundaries, to the extent necessary to keep
15 a common community of interest together in the same
16 district.

17 As to the Senate District 34, the proposed plan
18 will cut the City of Westminster in half, would
19 seriously affect the Little Saigon district. We want to
20 ask that District 34 be modified to include the
21 remainder of the City of Westminster. And this revision
22 can be compensated by excluding portion of Fullerton
23 which is north of Anaheim, so that the Fullerton can be
24 excluded from District 34. By doing that, District 34
25 will fit together the common community of Little Saigon,

00461

1 including a town which is also the same portion, the
2 same district of District 68, Assembly district.

3 We acknowledge that the community has been
4 working very hard to put -- to satisfy interests from
5 all community, but we understand this -- this provision
6 that we propose today can be accomplished with little
7 difficulties to the district and other affected
8 communities.

9 We would ask the committee to reconsider our
10 request for the revision today and your considerations,
11 our communities' concerns. We appreciate it.

12 Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman and the
13 committee members.

14 And I would also -- I have a copy of
15 statement -- I have statement of my testimony that I
16 wanted to submit to the staff. I hope that will be
17 included.

18 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
19 We are getting a little bit of noise over the microphone
20 there, so I couldn't quite clearly get you, but I
21 understand you indicated you can provide us with a hard
22 copy of your testimony?

23 MR. NGUYEN: Yes, I will do that and have done
24 that.

25 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: We have staff there

00462

1 that can take it from you, if you can give it to one of
2 the legislative staff people who are there, and they
3 will make sure that we put that into the record.

4 Thank you very much.

5 MR. NGUYEN: Thank you.

6 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Appreciate it.

7 And I believe next, also from Santa Ana, we
8 have Mr. Art Montez from LULAC 147?

9 MR. MONTEZ: That's correct.

10 Good afternoon. My name is Art Montez. I'm
11 with LULAC 147 in Santa Ana. We come here today to
12 testify on behalf of LULAC and the Latino community
13 statewide. Especially what we would like to address is
14 the process in which these plans were directed and the
15 makeup and the architects.

16 I would like to start first with the Assembly,
17 but let me give you a brief history. LULAC helped and
18 assisted in drawing these plans before in -- with the
19 courts, and we are prepared and have asked the
20 Department of Justice to review the plans that are
21 currently being proposed by the Assembly, Senate and
22 Congressional.

23 I would like to comment that we do have some
24 major problems with the Assembly. I think to begin
25 with, with those who have had a historical background of

00463

1 animosity and contempt towards the Latino community,
2 especially the chief architect, which also was the
3 architect of divisive political campaigns against the
4 immigrant community several years back and now was given
5 the task of overseeing the voting rights and civil
6 rights of these individuals at the ballot box, I think
7 to entrust such an individual with such a responsibility
8 is contempt I think on the part of the Assembly
9 leadership and irresponsible on those that have any
10 moral obligations within the leadership in Sacramento.

11 This really truly resembles a piece of meat
12 that was thrown out to a Komodo dragon, and then trying
13 to figure out how the dismembered parts go together.
14 That's our -- in regards to the Assembly. It was truly
15 an architect's political dream to dismember the whole
16 Latino leadership, whether it be Republican or Democrat,
17 in the center part of the county by separating each one
18 of those elected -- those few of us that are elected in
19 the center part of the county, whether it be in
20 La Habra, in the communities of interest, in Garden
21 Grove, La Palma, Cypress and Los Alamitos to Anaheim,
22 that are separating five or six different parts in Santa
23 Ana and isolating us into and infragmenting us into
24 different Assembly seats. I think that clearly is a
25 violation and will hopefully be seen by those in the

1 court. This successfully was done.

2 I think -- Echoing another individual that was
3 here earlier that spoke, I think I'm ashamed at the
4 Democratic leadership, and being a longtime Democrat, to
5 see this occur, one that has long had a history of
6 inclusion, of pushing the Voting Rights Act, of the
7 Civil Rights Act, and now to be in a position that one
8 of the few states -- in one of the few states in the
9 nation, to entrust this -- the civil rights and voting
10 rights of those that are emerging within the Latino and
11 Asian communities, that are making the poor makeup of
12 those that are now coming to the polls, those that are
13 coming and infusing in the Democratic leadership, and
14 to, with contempt, go against the will of the
15 constitution and draw districts that fragment any type
16 of leadership coming up through the ranks, whether it be
17 at the school board level, at the city council, truly
18 shows true contempt towards those communities and a
19 distrust for the capability and talents.

20 Also, I would like to mention that it is a
21 shame that those in the caucus leadership roles at the
22 State Assembly and Senate would allow such a task and
23 such a crime to be committed by those in the role of
24 drawing these districts.

25 The first rule when you are drawing a district

00465

1 is you look at the community of interest, you look at
2 the laws, you look at the topography, you look at those
3 commonalities. You look at language. You look at
4 ethnicity. And those are the things that we looked at.
5 Those are the things that we have developed within the
6 courts. And truly, here what we have seen was total
7 contempt by the architects at the Assembly level, to
8 dismember us and throw us into several different
9 counties, to have no Constitutional background as to
10 drawing these districts beyond a paycheck and beyond
11 looking at some other type of political position down
12 the road.

13 The situation where La Palma and Buena Park and
14 others were thrown into LA, Fullerton, and others were
15 thrown into northern LA, San Bernardino and Riverside,
16 is very much contemptful on the part of the architect.

17 I would like to go on into the Senate. In the
18 Senate plans on the 34th District, I think there is some
19 alterations that can be made. But look it over. The
20 statewide, it truly looks like some flesh-eating virus
21 ate at other different communities of interest in the
22 border communities, in LA and in San Bernardino.

23 On the Congressional, we feel that there could
24 have been some other districts drawn that would have
25 given the community of interest and the Latino going

00466

1 further east. I think it's also contemptful that people
2 were -- had to pay in order to protect their incumbency,
3 and I think it's a verguenza -- and in Spanish, that
4 means it's a shame -- that people would be extorted into
5 paying in order to keep their constituency and voting
6 rights and not also be willing to meet the challenge of
7 representing other and new voters in those areas that
8 have a commonality of interest.

9 I think that is -- says very little of the
10 individual's capability to show their talent in a
11 leadership role in representing other communities.

12 I would like to end this talk by notifying you
13 that we would like to ask the leadership, especially
14 Governor Davis, to possibly look at forming a judicial
15 committee, no different than Pete Wilson, which we
16 consider probably one of the greatest individuals
17 against the Latino community, that authored 187 and
18 other contemptuous propositions against us, but he even
19 foresaw that there was a conflict. And I think in order
20 to avoid the very bitter conflicts in the public, and to
21 avoid any legal action by the organizations such as
22 LULAC and MALDEF and others, and use public funds to
23 defend the Assembly and Senate, I think would be best in
24 the public good that a three-member judicial panel be
25 appointed by the Governor and let them sort out this

00467

1 mess that has been created by these political hired guns
2 that have created a political cannibalism up in
3 Sacramento.

4 For this to be allowed and to continue and
5 these people be paid off the public water trough is
6 atrocious. And I think we should end it now. I think
7 we should start the new year and not in a contemptuous
8 manner, but let the judicial process be handled by
9 somebody in a neutral position. And I think that
10 responsibility may end up having to fall within the
11 Governor, because obviously the sense of incapability of
12 talents and the lack of leadership talent at the Senate
13 and the Assembly level and unwillingness to face the
14 voters at the ballot box will be the only solution left
15 to the public and the only relief to mitigate such abuse
16 of power.

17 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much for
18 taking the time to come and speak to us, Mr. Montez. We
19 appreciate it.

20 And our next witness, also in Santa Ana, will
21 be also from LULAC 147, and that is Zeke Hernandez.

22 Please come forward, sir.

23 MR. HERNANDEZ: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,
24 Assemblymember Longville.

25 My name is Zeke Hernandez. I'm president of

00468

1 the Santa Ana LULAC, League of Latino American Citizens.
2 It is a civil rights organization, and it was founded
3 nationally in 1929. Here in Santa Ana, it was founded
4 in 1946. We have been involved in the redistricting
5 process 10 years ago as well as 20 years ago with the
6 Californians for Representation.

7 It's interesting, because when you had the
8 public hearing in Santa Ana earlier, we submitted our
9 plans, what we thought would be best for the communities
10 of interest here in Orange County. The plans that were
11 brought forth to the public do not show those concerns.
12 So, it brings to my mind, as well as probably bringing
13 to the minds of other public members, whether your
14 committee will take into consideration the input that
15 you are receiving from these statewide hearings at this
16 moment if those concerns were not taken into account at
17 the public hearings that you had before.

18 So, with that in mind -- and I have submitted
19 to -- a letter to the Department of Justice asking that
20 they investigate and to find out, determine if the
21 statewide plans as proposed by the committee or as
22 proposed by the state legislators, whether it falls
23 within the Section 2 considerations, particularly in
24 terms of the Section 5 counties that have received
25 protection of the Department of Justice and the Voting

1 Rights Act.

2 So, it behooves me. I really wonder whether
3 you are going to take into consideration the comments
4 by your constituents in your district, in your area,
5 Victorville, San Bernardino, whether you will push those
6 concerns to the map makers, and not only their concerns,
7 but the concerns of the communities here in Orange
8 County, the Asian American community, the Latino
9 community and others, as well as the larger community.
10 I wonder whether you're going to really seriously take
11 the comments into consideration, those that you received
12 from the Los Angeles area, from the San Bernardino area,
13 as well as the Northern California area.

14 If you -- If you do accept these comments and
15 you do make changes, radical changes to the
16 redistricting plan that you proposed, that means that
17 the money you spent earlier to the map makers went down
18 the drain. Because they have come up with a map that
19 took nothing, zero, zilch, nada for the considerations
20 that were brought to this committee and to the Senate
21 committee in previous public hearings. If -- That is
22 paramount in terms of whether this plan in the year 2001
23 takes into consideration the changes that have occurred
24 since the last census, 1990 census, and whether you have
25 really paid attention to the data that you received in

00470

1 terms of the 2000 census.

2 Please consider that, Mr. Chairman.

3 Mr. Chairman?

4 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Yes, listening. And
5 not only considering, if I might, since you wanted me to
6 respond -- normally I don't like to interrupt -- I would
7 like to just kind of make clear because something that I
8 had thought was so obvious, everyone already knew this,
9 but perhaps it's not real obvious to everyone, is that
10 of course while we -- while we would want to take down
11 the testimony from everyone and consider all of the
12 testimony that we receive from the -- Let's see. There
13 were eight days of Assembly hearings, five days of
14 Assembly hearings. That's 13. And then the two days
15 we're holding now. 15 days of hearings, each of which
16 had many people testifying, that oftentimes out of all
17 those people, they didn't all agree.

18 And so as remarkable as it might seem, they
19 were actually cases -- in fact, the vast bulk of
20 cases -- we received testimony from each community
21 asking for specific things. And in some cases, and
22 Orange County is one of them, we had people who
23 testified at the hearings in Santa Ana in person who had
24 different ideas of what was in fact the best solution.

25 So, the fact that the lines you see in front of

00471

1 you, which keep in mind are not final and still may be
2 and probably will be tweaked and may be changed -- more
3 than tweaked. Those lines were drawn based on taking
4 into account a variety of inputs. Not just any one
5 individual, but rather a whole bunch of individuals who
6 did not agree. And we probably didn't take everything
7 from one person. We probably took a piece from one
8 individual's testimony and a piece from another
9 individual's.

10 And so no one person is likely to find that all
11 of the lines reflect his or her individual choices, but
12 that doesn't necessarily mean because the map drawers
13 did not draw the exact map that particular individual
14 wanted, that the map drawers and the committee didn't
15 hear the testimony from all of them, many people who
16 testified.

17 MR. HERNANDEZ: I understand that,
18 Mr. Chairman, and that's why I took into consideration
19 the individuals speaking from the other sectors of the
20 state. We fully understand that in terms of LULAC, you
21 probably would not accept it a hundred percent, but at
22 least you would consider the input. We understand that
23 the final map, redistricting map for all of the state
24 and California would not take into -- would not accept a
25 hundred percent of our input. But I think what is

1 remarkable is the feedback that you are getting from
2 your constituents, as well as the constituents and the
3 state legislators throughout the state, too. And that,
4 pay heed.

5 And so with that, Mr. Chairman, I have sent,
6 transmitted, faxed a letter to the assistant attorney
7 general of the US Department of Justice this morning,
8 Ralph Boyd, Jr., and it's a letter that is a follow-up
9 to the letter which I faxed to him yesterday, and within
10 this letter we have requested that the Department of
11 Justice deny any preclusives for the specified counties
12 in California which fall under the umbrella of Section
13 5.

14 In addition, we are submitting to the United
15 States Department of Justice our official request that
16 the agency take the appropriate steps to determine the
17 placement of the entire state under the protection of
18 Section 5. There are some other states that have --
19 that are under that protection. It is Santa Ana's
20 LULAC's opinion that the committee, the election and
21 reapportionment committee, of which you chair, is
22 determined to approve the plan as proposed with minor
23 changes, and I think the public is aware through media
24 comments that there may be only some tweaking of the
25 statewide plans. And you have acknowledged that there

00473

1 might be some dramatic changes. I look forward to any
2 of those dramatic changes, because definitely, like
3 somebody has said earlier, you have got to start from
4 step one, and I think you certainly do have to do that.

5 LULAC brings to your attention the following:

6 We urge that this action to the Department of Justice on
7 behalf of new citizen voters, primarily Latino that have
8 become new citizens within the past ten years, since the
9 1990 census, in many newly drawn districts, the voting
10 rights of the new Americans are being discriminated due
11 to their limited English skills and their unfamiliarity
12 of the voting system, the electoral process, also. I
13 think we ought to take that into consideration when we
14 look at communities of interest.

15 State legislators are responsible for approving
16 the 2001 redistricting plans have devised a method of
17 the valuable participation and input of the general
18 public and organizations representing the ethnic --
19 these various ethnic communities where at the same time
20 providing a facade of public hearings. We may have a
21 different perspective on the public hearings that were
22 held and the input that was received and digest it, but
23 I certainly believe -- I think that you have a very
24 short period of time to really go back, to look at the
25 drawings and to change those drawings, because you have

1 to do it by a certain date within the month of
2 September, I believe, because your local county
3 registrar of voters will need to have that specific
4 information for any individual who seeks -- who wishes
5 to seek a state legislative office.

6 You have certain time periods that they must
7 meet. And one of those, if you will, items is, I
8 believe -- I may be corrected -- that 30 days prior to
9 the opening of the filing for a state office, that a
10 person has to sign his or her intent to file for state
11 legislative office. So, there are certain time periods
12 that you must meet. And we are -- we are getting down
13 to the wire.

14 And I think that you -- that the committee and
15 lawmakers have put together some -- I don't know, and
16 this is one perspective, whether it's a pact among
17 legislators, Republican and Democrats, to draw the
18 lines, to draw the districts having one consideration,
19 to protect the incumbents. I think that has been
20 foremost in what has come out in the news media and from
21 comments from some state legislators.

22 The openness of redistricting public hearings
23 have been extinguished by the partisan protectionist
24 practices of hiring partisan consultants to draw the one
25 person, one vote redistricting plans in secretive

00475

1 locations. I'm sure it's not as to the Assembly plans,
2 but certainly the Senate democrats have hired a
3 consultant who has formandered (phonetic), or you know,
4 it is another take of gerrymandering. He is
5 mermandering (phonetic) the districts to protect not
6 only other state legislators, but his own family.
7 Clearly, he has the intention of the state government to
8 dilute the voting patterns of racial minority groups in
9 the state, in California, which will create a racially
10 discriminatory electoral process throughout the entire
11 state.

12 So, LULAC, the Santa Ana League of Latin
13 Americans, is asking you, is urging the United States
14 Department of Justice to take the necessary steps to
15 bring the entire state under the protective umbrella of
16 Section 5.

17 I want to thank you and members of the
18 committee. I know you have indeed made some determined
19 efforts to allow for public input. But when that is
20 accomplished and you go back and you lay out the maps on
21 the floor, if you will, not the computers, but if you
22 lay out the maps on the floor and start drawing lines,
23 I think a child could have done much better with his or
24 her Etch-A-Sketch apparatus, toy, than what you have
25 before you. The zigzags of the districts within the

00476

1 state leaves much to be desired.

2 Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the
3 committee.

4 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you,
5 Mr. Hernandez, for taking the time to come and speak to
6 us this afternoon.

7 We have -- Next we are switching to Los Angeles
8 South, which, I believe -- you know, I'm not sure which
9 community college we are at for LA South, but I believe
10 we are going to have city council member in,
11 Kirk Cartozian, from City of Downey.

12 And Councilmember Cartozian, if you can say a
13 word to make -- that activates the microphone, which
14 causes the camera to switch.

15 MR. CARTOZIAN: Hello, Chairman Longville.

16 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: There we go. We now
17 have you on our screen, and thank you, and we welcome
18 your testimony.

19 Please go ahead

20 MR. CARTOZIAN: Okay. Thank you, Honorable
21 Chairman Longville and other committee members.

22 We are at LA Harbor College. I come from the
23 City of Downey. I'm on the council. Mayor pro tem
24 Meredith Perkins is also here echoing my comments.
25 Hopefully, he won't be tripping the microphone.

1 I don't know -- In all due respect to previous
2 speakers, I'm going to try to keep my comments as brief
3 and concerted as possible. I'm a teacher in the City of
4 Downey, and for those people -- I think nationwide a lot
5 of people are very aware of the concern of our area.
6 We, having about one year in change, to which time we
7 will be represented by Congressman Stephen Horn in the
8 38th District which is proposed to be closed in the
9 State of California. I think this is a matter that is
10 pretty obvious to be a compromise of a part of
11 loyalties, of both the Republican and Democratic
12 parties.

13 I find it very unfortunate for the communities
14 at stake here, Downey being one of them. I think three
15 of the main bullets that we have been looking at as far
16 as how to gauge and assess redistricting, which is done
17 every 10 years -- And let me remind ourselves, no one is
18 really our major expert in this, because it is not
19 something that we do every year. It is not something
20 that meets the Assembly floor even every month. It is
21 something that is brought to our attention every 10
22 years, and I don't expect anyone that is making these
23 decisions to be fully aware of it, because to be honest
24 with you, I don't think any of us are experts in the
25 matter. I can only bring our concerns.

1 The fact that Congressman Horn, who is a
2 Republican, was able to maintain a seat for over 10
3 years' time in the Congress with only 30 percent of the
4 registered voters being Republican registration, I think
5 speaks volumes to the degree of importance of
6 communities of interest, or I would like to say of
7 common interest. Myself, not even being a registered
8 Republican, have found Congressman Horn's representation
9 to be extremely important to our region, and I think the
10 only matter that we have really looked at in many cases
11 is the matter of population.

12 You have an entire state to overlook, and the
13 only objective factor is population size. Contiguous
14 districting, that is a matter that I think is somewhat
15 subjective. Communities of interest could be somewhat
16 subjective. I'm just going to point out that Downey
17 falls under what I call the horseshoe effect, in that
18 the entire district of Number 53 Congressionally will
19 horseshoe around the Downey and Bellflower community to
20 include a lot of communities that I do not feel are
21 necessarily common interests.

22 So, I would like those to be kept in mind. I
23 do believe this is something that should be visiting the
24 courts if these matters are not taken into
25 consideration.

1 And there is another member of our community
2 who is going to speak to some degree about what she and
3 thousands of people in our city alone, not to mention
4 probably many others, have petitioned against what we
5 feel is a travesty for the former 38 District, which
6 will probably close in January of 2003 with the creation
7 of the new 38th District in Central California,
8 Fresno/Visalia area, I believe.

9 Thank you very much for your time, and please
10 know that these concerns are not shared by one or two,
11 but many of our committee. Thank you, Chairman.

12 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
13 Councilmember Cartozian, for taking time out of your
14 busy day to come and give us the benefit of your local
15 insights on what changes you believe need to be made.

16 I believe our next witness also will be from
17 the same site, and I believe that is our new 15th
18 District Los Angeles Councilmember, Janice Hahn. I
19 believe. Whoops. Excuse me. Am I on the wrong one?
20 That was the list that I had.

21 Councilmember Hahn, we welcome you.

22 MS. HAHN: Thank you. Thank you for taking
23 this opportunity to listen to our concerns.

24 My greetings here from Harbor College to my
25 local Assemblymembers there on the committee,

00480

1 Jenny Oropeza, George Nakano and Tony Cardenas, who
2 seeks to be on the LA city council some day. And we are
3 here at the Harbor College, which is why I'm here. And
4 Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I want to
5 address you to express my strong concerns about the
6 reapportionment maps which have just recently been
7 published.

8 As we all know, the reapportionment process
9 must attempt to serve many masters. Drawing lines to
10 serve the needs of the electoral process is clearly a
11 difficult task, and by its very nature we understand
12 that it holds the potential to create great discord
13 throughout the state.

14 While you are trying to retain communities of
15 interest, I know that many times you end up splitting
16 existing neighborhoods. And within the City of Los
17 Angeles, and within my own city council district here,
18 there are several instances of this type of split. And
19 I'm sure everyone is bringing to you examples of how
20 communities of interest and neighborhoods all over the
21 state of California are suffering from this process.

22 And I'm not here today to suggest that the City
23 of Los Angeles or that my own city council district
24 should be exempt from this, but I am here to say that
25 the proposed reapportionment maps published last week

00481

1 for the State Senate and the Congressional districts
2 show a separation here in the harbor area of Los Angeles
3 that in my opinion and many others is unconscionable.

4 Both of these maps have placed the Port of Los
5 Angeles in districts separate from the City of Los
6 Angeles, and in particular from the communities of San
7 Pedro and Wilmington.

8 We have been attempting for a long time to
9 reinstate the accountability between the Port of Los
10 Angeles and its surrounding neighborhoods of Wilmington
11 and San Pedro, and we need an accountable relationship
12 between the people, its port and its political
13 leadership. And when all is said and done, the Port of
14 Los Angeles is an asset, one of the greatest assets of
15 the City of Los Angeles, and it is governed by the mayor
16 of Los Angeles, city council, and a board of harbor
17 commissioners, all of whom live within the City of Los
18 Angeles, and it provides for jobs. And the impact of
19 international trade industry in our community is great.
20 Yet under the plan proposed last week, our ports would
21 come under the osmosis of a State Senate office based in
22 Inglewood and a Congressional district based in Orange
23 County.

24 And to have such an integral element of our
25 city represented by an elected official in Orange County

00482

1 we believe is absurd. And to tell the communities of
2 San Pedro and Wilmington, who already suffer from being
3 27 miles away from their own city government, that they
4 must now suffer this hardship is outrageous.

5 And I'm not here again to insist that every
6 neighborhood in my council district or every
7 neighborhood in the City of Los Angeles remain intact,
8 nor am I here to obstruct an already very difficult
9 process, but, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee,
10 I am here today to defend the City of Los Angeles and
11 the residences and businesses of our harbor community.

12 Yesterday on the city council, I got a
13 unanimous vote to cast what we call an urgency
14 resolution objecting to the removal of the Port of Los
15 Angeles from the Los Angeles County Congressional
16 district.

17 We must remember that the harbor area is a
18 harbor area because the port is the Port of Los Angeles
19 and because it is attached to the City of Los Angeles,
20 and we believe that breaking these bonds is
21 unconscionable, and I urge you to reconsider the maps
22 that have been proposed.

23 And while I'm here to defend keeping the Port
24 of Los Angeles within an L.A. County Congressional
25 district, I also want to add the fact that, you know,

00483

1 both ports -- the only two ports of Los Angeles County,
2 the Port of Long Beach and the Port of Los Angeles, are
3 proposed now be represented by an Orange County
4 Congressperson, and we just feel like that's a bad idea.

5 Thank you very much.

6 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much for
7 taking the time to be here today, and we will pass along
8 all of these comments. I don't know if you were in the
9 room earlier when I noted that we have -- all of these
10 comments are being transcribed and all members of the
11 conference committee will have them as they are looking
12 at the revisions that are sure to be following.

13 So, thank you very much.

14 MS. HAHN: We know you'll do the right thing.

15 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you. We
16 appreciate that and stress -- I do want to note that I'm
17 not on the conference committee. But I'm sure the
18 conference committee will.

19 And do I next have Downey resident, Mary Lou
20 Tapin?

21 MS. TAPIA: Tapia.

22 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Tapia. Excuse me. It
23 was misspelled on my list here.

24 Mary Lou Tapia. Thank you for being here.

25 MS. TAPIA: Thank you. I'm just going to take

1 up where our council representative left off. And what
2 I wanted to say was that the residents -- I am
3 representing the residents of the Latino community in
4 Downey.

5 One of the things is that we are extremely
6 concerned because we found out that they wanted to
7 remove Downey from the 38th District and put us into the
8 33rd District. One of the things that I think that they
9 have to realize is that Latinos living in the City of
10 Downey, most of them moved from the 33rd District
11 looking for a better quality of life, and they did find
12 that quality of life in the City of Downey.

13 I hold in my hand right now over 700 signatures
14 of Latinos living in Downey who are very -- who oppose
15 that we be moved back into the 33rd District, and that
16 includes myself. We feel that we would like to align
17 ourselves with cities that have similar needs. We --

18 For example, we were also aware of an article
19 that came out in La Jolla, and the Latinos in Downey do
20 not want to take, for example, responsibility for this
21 change. In that article, it states that MALDEF, the
22 Mexican American Legal Defense organization, claims that
23 this change is being made because of Latinos support
24 their plan.

25 Well, I don't know -- I hate to disagree.

1 The Latinos in the City of Downey are not supporting
2 MALDEF's plan. We have -- Because of that article,
3 there has been a unification between the Latinos and
4 nonLatinos in the city of Downey, and we have a total of
5 over 1,000 signatures of every resident in Downey
6 claiming that they do not want to leave -- we do not
7 want to be a part of the 33rd Congressional District.

8 We also have a coalition who is out there
9 talking to the community and asking them if they would
10 like to be a part of the 33rd District. And I have not
11 yet heard one individual say, "I would like to be a part
12 of the 33rd District."

13 And again, I did submit over 800 signatures to
14 your office with everyone -- with Latino signatures,
15 stating we do not want to be a part of the 33rd
16 District. They moved to Downey for a better quality of
17 life. And in the history of the Latino community, there
18 is one reason why they do that, and they do it for their
19 families. And we are very content being -- living in
20 Downey, but we also want to please urge you that you
21 consider aligning us with cities that have the same
22 needs.

23 Thank you.

24 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
25 Ms. Tapia, for taking the time to come here, as well.

1 We are now going to leave Harbor Community
2 College and move to -- back here to Sacramento for a few
3 witnesses.

4 And let me double check. I believe we have
5 Mr. Bill Magnavern with -- who is the senior legislative
6 rep for the Sierra Club. And while he's approaching the
7 podium, let me advise so he can be getting ready,
8 Mr. Dan Jacobsen with the California Public Research
9 Group will be next if he is in the room, and following
10 him will be Ms. Susan Jordan with the League for Coastal
11 Protection, also testifying here in Sacramento.

12 With that, Mr. Magnavern, you have the
13 microphone.

14 MR. MAGNAVERN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15 With the different maps, of course, there are
16 issues raised all over the state, but I want to focus on
17 one issue, which is our belief that it would be a good
18 idea to keep the State Senate seats along the central
19 coast intact because those coastal areas have their
20 unique concerns and communities of interest with other
21 areas along the coast and differences of interests with
22 areas that are more inland.

23 We take these positions out of concerns, of
24 course, for the environment and not out of any partisan
25 reasons. In fact, these central coast Senate districts

1 now are represented, one by a Republican, by
2 Mr. McPherson, and one by a Democrat, Senator O'Connell.
3 And we think that those lines should stay roughly the
4 way they are because of the coastal areas are resource
5 dependent, have unique interests in tourism,
6 agricultural and fisheries, among other things.

7 The coastal economy is based extensively on
8 a thriving tourist economy, and some of the basic
9 interests that come from that tourist economy are
10 directed at resources and infrastructure that are very
11 different from inland areas, on issues like water
12 projects, coastal nonpoint source pollution, pesticide
13 drift and growth issues. Coastal communities often have
14 very different interests from more inland areas.

15 On environmental issues, coastal communities
16 share the benefits, risks and impacts of critical
17 policies like expansion of offshore oil drilling,
18 fisheries' management plans, coastal zoned land use
19 planning, creek and ocean water pollution, and watershed
20 planning and management. These are issues that are not
21 of much consequence to those communities further inland
22 or sometimes directly conflict with the approaches taken
23 upstream of the coastal communities.

24 So we think that because these communities have
25 unique interests and a small margin of territory in

00488

1 which to maintain an economy, that is critically
2 dependent on the limited and highly priced coastal
3 resources, that the fundamental shifts that would be
4 made by the Senate redistricting lines would grossly
5 dilute the ability of coastal agricultural, tourist and
6 fisheries industries to shape their future and would
7 stifle the ability of these communities to keep their
8 voices part of the state-level debate on policy and
9 budget priorities in the future.

10 We think that in the Santa Cruz, Monterey and
11 Salinas area, that those areas have very common
12 interests, and particularly environmental issues unite
13 them into communities of interest, and that their common
14 interest should not be split up among three different
15 Senate districts. And for those reasons, we think that
16 the interest of these coastal communities would be
17 better served if their voices were not diminished by
18 being split up into separate districts, but instead were
19 kept as intact as possible.

20 Thank you very much.

21 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
22 Excuse me. We appreciate you taking the time as well to
23 be here, Mr. Magnavern.

24 And we will now take -- Is Mr. Jacobsen here?
25 Do we have -- Mr. Jacobsen is not in the room.

00489

1 Is Ms. Jordan here?

2 Okay. Moving down to the next individual I
3 have listed is Mayor Amy Worth and Councilmember
4 Laura Abrams from Orinda. Are they in the room? Okay.

5 MAYOR WORTH: This is my first time.

6 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Go right ahead.

7 MAYOR WORTH: Thank you very much, Chair
8 Longville.

9 It's an honor to be here, members of the
10 committee. I am Amy Worth, the mayor of Orinda, and
11 joining me is Councilmember Laura Abrams. We are
12 honored to be here today and appreciate the opportunity
13 to come before you and speak about the redistricting
14 that is before us in the state of California.

15 At its meeting on Tuesday, September 4th, the
16 Orinda City Council voted unanimously to express its
17 opposition to the Congressional redistricting proposal
18 that would combine the representation for the Orinda
19 community with communities in the San Joaquin Valley.
20 And I'm going to read my remarks today because I want to
21 make sure that I accurately characterize the unanimous
22 opinion of our five council members.

23 "The city council's opposition is not based
24 on partisan politics, as the Orinda council includes
25 individuals from both major political parties. Our

00490

1 opposition, instead, reflects an interest in having
2 Congressional representation around a community of
3 common interest and concerns.

4 "As you know, Orinda is currently part of
5 the 10th Congressional District represented by
6 Congressman Ellen Tauscher. Although the district
7 includes diverse points of view, Orinda shares interests
8 and concerns with our neighboring communities in
9 Contra Costa County regarding traffic and transportation
10 infrastructure, energy and water resources, health care,
11 education and government services. Orinda and its
12 neighboring cities of Lafayette and Moraga have worked
13 together effectively over the past decades with our
14 Congressional representative to address many of these
15 concerns. To combine Orinda with areas of the
16 San Joaquin County, which have different commute
17 patterns, different infrastructure needs, different
18 economic underpinnings, just to name a few of the
19 fundamental differences, does a disservice to both of
20 these communities and is a disservice to the entire
21 redistricting process.

22 "The current proposal quite simply excludes
23 the Orinda community from receiving proper and adequate
24 Congressional representation around these and other key
25 issues.

00491

1 "We understand the difficult task that you
2 and the Elections, Reapportionment and Constitutional
3 Amendments Committee face in your redistricting work.
4 But we must urge you to revisit this redistricting
5 affecting" -- "proposal affecting the Orinda community.

6 "We are confident that upon further
7 thoughtful reflection, you will conclude that this
8 current proposal does not combine a community of
9 interests to ensure fair Congressional representation
10 for our citizens.

11 "On behalf of the Orinda City Council, I
12 want to thank you very much for your excellent work for
13 the people of California, and again, thank you very much
14 for the opportunity to be here today to share our
15 concerns with you."

16 Thank you.

17 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you for taking
18 the time to be here. We appreciate the fact that you
19 took time out of your busy day to come here and give us
20 a little bit of additional information that hopefully
21 will contribute to making this plan better. Thank you.

22 MAYOR WORTH: Thank you very much.

23 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: And I believe we are
24 now returning to LA Valley College.

25 And do I have from Calabasas City Council

1 Member Lesley Devine?

2 MR. ROCHA: You still forgot me.

3 MAYOR WORTH: Hello.

4 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Sorry. Excuse me one
5 moment. Ms. Devine, if you -- Councilmember Devine,
6 would you mind holding just one moment here. There is a
7 gentleman who is in the room who earlier had been told
8 that he would be accommodated the next time there was a
9 Sacramento break, and I didn't realize he had come back
10 in the room. So, we will be right back to you in just a
11 moment.

12 And at this time I have Mr. Rocha. Mr. Rocha,
13 I'm sorry, don't -- the folks in my -- in back here
14 don't have your name up on my list. I remember it is
15 Mr. Rocha, but I've forgotten your first.

16 MR. ROCHA: Yes. My name is Rafael M. Rocha
17 and --

18 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you.

19 MR. ROCHA: Thank you very much, Mr. Longville.

20 I live here in Sacramento, and I am a member of
21 a local chapter of LULAC, League of United Latino
22 American Citizens, and we chapter Lorenzo Chapter 2682,
23 and we deal with Latino youth. And we're trying to help
24 out the Latino youth because there is chronic problems
25 in the Latino community which include gang violence,

00493

1 drugs and alcoholism, and a big problem of high-school
2 dropout.

3 The reason I'm here today is to try to speak
4 out on these kind of things and to make a point about
5 the incredible underrepresentation of people of color,
6 both in the California Legislature and in the US
7 Congress. So, I would say that to the people that are
8 redrawing these maps, redistricting, that they be
9 sensitive to the concerns of the disenfranchised racial
10 Latino, black, Asian, Native American groups.

11 We live in a country that for the longest time
12 has basically been over -- how should I best put it --
13 represented by whites. Well, that is just the way it
14 is. You know, we move on.

15 So, you know, let's be sensitive. We have
16 various different racial and ethnic people coming up
17 here, and to me it is very -- it is a big concern.
18 Because in this country of ours, this great country of
19 ours -- Let me just bring out some numbers real quick.

20 The US houses 435 representatives. I'm just
21 going to basically speak on US Congress, I am not going
22 to speak on Assembly or State. But in the US House of
23 Representatives, there are 435 available seats, and 19
24 of them currently are Latino -- American Latino. 39 of
25 them are African-American. And so that constitutes an

1 underrepresented minority right there. The 19 out of
2 435 equals 4 percent of the US House. The 39 out of 435
3 constitutes to about 8 percent, give or take, tweak with
4 the numbers there. But 4 and 8. Asians are
5 underrepresented, too. So are Native Americans, and I
6 want to bring light to this.

7 Also, I know we are not dealing with the US
8 Senate because the US Senate is voted on at an overall
9 statewide. But even the US Senate, in the year 2001,
10 has an almost 100 percent Anglo white majority. This is
11 a disgrace. If we are to be considered the greatest
12 nation in the world, these things must be improved.
13 Does anybody agree? I agree.

14 I believe that there is one Pacific Asian
15 Senator in Hawaii. So, it's not 100 percent Anglo
16 white. It's maybe 99 or 98 percent. Anyways, that's
17 why I'm here today.

18 We have a Congress that is overwhelmingly 86
19 percent Anglo white. And so, you know, we have -- for
20 these people that are drawing up these maps, it's not
21 funny, you know, that we have these kind of statistics
22 in the year that we are supposed to be making progress
23 on these kind of things. And so I would just question
24 the people that are looking into these maps to be very
25 careful on not diluting the Latino influence, political

00495

1 influence, the black influence, the Asian influence and
2 the like.

3 You know, I work with a lot of Latino youth.
4 And I ask them -- I'm also a member of another
5 organization called United Latino Forum, which we
6 basically just go out to the community and we ask young
7 folks what do they think of their future. American,
8 young Latino -- are they -- "Are you looking forward to
9 the future?" And some do and some don't. A lot of it
10 has to do obviously with economics. Some of their
11 parents aren't at home. And also we get -- we are
12 getting, you know --

13 What my point is, the Latino youth is a
14 community of interest without a doubt, you know. And
15 some of the concerns that they have is that on
16 television, that they are not portrayed in a positive
17 light and it contributes --

18 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Mr. Rocha, I greatly
19 appreciate and do not want to argue with you, because I
20 probably agree with you, with much of what you want to
21 say --

22 MR. ROCHA: This has -- is relevant to what I'm
23 saying.

24 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Mr. Rocha, yesterday I
25 let you speak a reasonable amount of time in hoping that

00496

1 there would be something about redistricting and there
2 never was. Now, today you touched on redistricting, but
3 let me note that we don't draw lines for the United
4 States. We only draw lines within California. And if
5 you have anything additional to note on redistricting,
6 specifically on redistricting, we'll entertain it. But
7 the problem is I have a whole bunch of people all over
8 the state who do want to talk about redistricting, and
9 we are keeping them waiting while you are talking about
10 television. So if you have --

11 MR. ROCHA: Well, television -- this is my
12 point, and I'm going to be very brief, and in one minute
13 I'll be through.

14 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Okay. Yes, you will.

15 MR. ROCHA: Okay. Well, respectfully speaking,
16 we did away the affirmative action which was supposed to
17 be a level playing field, which we don't. Negative
18 stereotypes affect the way people vote on TV. Now, we
19 have to get past that and accept that. These negative
20 portrayals on TV affect everything. Okay? Now --

21 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: I understand that.
22 Mr. Rocha, I understand that.

23 MR. ROCHA: What I was going to say about the
24 District 53 --

25 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Go ahead. Start

00497

1 talking about redistricting.

2 MR. ROCHA: About District 53, I'm glad it is
3 being formed for a Latino district in District 53, and
4 that's a good thing. So I'm just, you know, bringing it
5 up so we can have a conscience in the society that we
6 need to improve these things every decade. Okay?

7 And with that, I'll just say -- also just like
8 to say real quick I want to thank those people who were
9 responsible in making Cesar Chavez's birthday a state
10 holiday. It is a fantastic thing, and God bless this
11 country, and glory to God. Amen.

12 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you. Have a good
13 day. Thank you very much.

14 And we will then switch back to Valley -- Los
15 Angeles Valley College. And Councilmember Devine,
16 please feel free to go right ahead.

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 --oOo--

2 (The following pages were reported by
3 Wendy E. Arlen, CSR.)

4 --oOo--

5 MS. DEVINE: Chairman Longville, I wanted to
6 thank you very much for your patience and for sitting
7 through this and sorry to add to your burden, but here
8 we go.

9 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Quite all right. We
10 are happy to have testimony and that's our job. Thank
11 you.

12 MS. DEVINE: Thank you for being there for us.
13 The City of Calabasas is very concerned with the
14 reapportionment, especially the U. S. Congress. We feel
15 that that map has some problems and we would like to ask
16 for your help.

17 All of California is changing, all of our
18 communities are more and more multicultural. Throughout
19 the history of our nation we have welcomed people from
20 all over the world. The City of Calabasas prides itself
21 on the richness of our culture heritage and mix, having
22 citizens who come from every end of the Earth.
23 Calabasas has Protestants, Catholics, Jewish, Muslims
24 and a list of more. We are of European, American
25 Indian, South American, Asian and African descent. What

1 we have in common are love of our community and our
2 regional participation in the life of our wider
3 community. Therefore, it is this community of interest
4 that concerns me.

5 The law says that reapportionment must consider
6 the local community of interest. Calabasas' community
7 of interest is attached to our borders of the San
8 Fernando Valley on the east, Ventura County on the
9 northwest, Hidden Hills on the northeast. Physically
10 our city lies half within the San Fernando Valley and
11 half within the Las Virgins Valley. We are known as the
12 gateway to the Santa Monica Mountains.

13 We are active participants with the economic
14 alliance of the San Fernando Valley as one of the,
15 quote, five stars in the valley that form an alliance.
16 Those are Calabasas, Los Angeles, Burbank, Glendale and
17 San Fernando.

18 I leave you with an ad from "LA Times"
19 regarding one of our economic alliance projects which is
20 celebrating fine education. All of the schools we honor
21 this year happen to be within the Los Angeles district
22 but next year will be our Las Virgins school district.

23 We are active participants in the Santa Monica
24 Mountains Conservancy and with our state and national
25 park agencies. We are not a coastal city, although we

1 are a mountain city. We have no community of interest
2 with West Los Angeles, Beverly Hills and West Hollywood,
3 other than, of course, always wishing them well.

4 Under the proposed reapportionment, Calabasas
5 is basically disenfranchised in the U. S. Congressional
6 District. Our city's community of interest is ignored.
7 Our present 24th Congressional District becomes central
8 San Fernando district while Calabasas joins, as I said,
9 West Los Angeles, Beverly Hills, et cetera, all areas
10 that have little interest in our Santa Monica Mountains,
11 the traffic through the 101 freeway, environmental
12 protection, funding for environmental protection or
13 traffic problems or in the significant land use issues
14 that we face with our neighbors in the west San Fernando
15 Valley.

16 This change as proposed by Legislature will
17 lose us funding and positive associations built over the
18 years that is not acceptable.

19 What to do? There is an alternative. MALDEF
20 has proposed an alternative path which leaves the 24th
21 CD much the same, leaves our neighbor Hidden Hills and
22 Los Angeles in the 24th, but puts us in the 29th. I
23 would ask that Calabasas be placed in its rightful
24 community of interest in the 24th CD by adding us to the
25 map as proposed by MALDEF. I have spoken to Mr. Feliz

1 at MALDEF, and he assures us that our population
2 addition would be consistent with their mapping.

3 Overall, I find that the MALDEF map more fairly
4 considers a wide range of community interests past even
5 racial interests. My city council, which is a
6 bipartisan council, is very pleased with our current
7 representation. We have our formal council meeting
8 tonight and this issue is on our agenda as an urgency
9 matter for formal action. You will be receiving our
10 council's formal comments within the next few days. I
11 do thank you very much.

12 I would also like to read to you part of a
13 letter that I will be submitting from Professor Dave
14 Brown from Valley College here who is also the chairman
15 of our Calabasas Planning Commission and who is also
16 known throughout the San Fernando Valley and Santa
17 Monica mountains as Mr. Environmental.

18 Briefly, I will read some of his quotes.

19 "I am very concerned about the
20 proposed new boundaries of the 24th
21 Congressional District. There are
22 distinct geographical features that
23 are focal points of interest and
24 concern for people throughout the 24th
25 Congressional District. These

1 include" --

2 And to me this is also most important.

3 -- "the Ventura freeway corridor.

4 This freeway is the economic lifeblood

5 of the 24th district, carrying tens of

6 thousands of district residents to and

7 from work every day and serving the

8 needs of hundreds of thousands of

9 businesses that use it as their main

10 connection to suppliers and market."

11 Just to add to his notes, the 101 freeway is

12 the most congested freeway in California. It carries

13 interstate traffic. We have received assistance because

14 our Congressman has so well known the problems along the

15 101 all the way from Santa Barbara through to downtown

16 Los Angeles. By dividing that freeway into districts

17 that don't care, we will have an extreme problem.

18 I will leave the rest of Dave's letter with

19 you. He discusses the mountains, and I thank you very,

20 very much for your patience and appreciate the time. If

21 there is any questions.

22 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,

23 Councilmember. Appreciate your time as well and I

24 believe at your same location there we're going to now

25 hear from Ms. Nina Royal, I believe. Thank you.

1 MS. ROYAL: Correct. Thank you very much. My
2 name is Nina Royal. I live in the Tujunga area of the
3 Tujunga community located in the Angeles Crest Foothills
4 northeast of San Fernando Valley.

5 Apparently we are not very well-known because
6 of the fact that we weren't listed on any of the maps
7 and also we were not notified of the fact of this
8 meeting until Friday just before the holiday. So more
9 of our community members would be here, but myself and
10 Lorraine Brown were asked to represent our community
11 members.

12 I am a member of the Chamber of Commerce and ad
13 hoc as well as a community activist. To save time I
14 would like to go on record as agreeing and standing
15 behind a previous speaker, Councilmember Jonathan
16 Sharkey of the City of Port Hueneme, regarding
17 disenfranchisement. He hit it right on the head. If
18 there is any problem that we the citizens of Tujunga are
19 going to experience if these plans go through as stated.

20 To give you a couple of examples, previously we
21 were able to meet and work closely with government reps
22 because of their close proximity. Now, we are totally
23 realigned with new officials which are approximately an
24 hour away and approximately -- an hour away. Excuse me.
25 We will also be in a district with a High Desert

1 headquarters an hour away is what I meant to say
2 separated by mountains that share no common interest or
3 geographic area.

4 Our State Assembly is in the district of Santa
5 Clarita and Simi Valley with which we also have nothing
6 in common. Our Congressional District is a total
7 disaster because it splits our community in half east
8 and west down the middle of Foothill Boulevard which is
9 our business area.

10 Sunland-Tujunga is a twin community and we
11 can't exist without whether he's east and west it's
12 north and south because we share the community and
13 municipal building, the high school, the middle school,
14 the library, the community rec center, the community
15 calendar, the business plan, all service organizations,
16 museum, paramedics and emergency response service and
17 the LA council rec.

18 This plan will definitely cause divisiveness in
19 our county and our representation by elected public
20 officials. Thank you very much.

21 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much
22 again for taking the time to come before us. As I'm
23 tilting my head here to read as I talk to you, I believe
24 our next witness from the same location is Ms. Elaine
25 Brown from Sunland-Tujunga Chamber of Commerce.

1 MS. BROWN: Yes, good afternoon. My name is
2 Elaine Brown, and I probably will repeat some of the
3 things that Nina has just told you, but I think that
4 they bear repeating. I'm a resident of Sunland, which
5 is a community located in the northeast part of San
6 Fernando Valley within the City of Los Angeles. I am a
7 community activist and a director of the Sunland-Tujunga
8 Chamber of Commerce and the Sunland-Tujunga delegate to
9 the United Chambers of Commerce of San Fernando Valley.

10 Sunland is a sister community with Tujunga. We
11 in Sunland-Tujunga, as sister cities, relinquished our
12 incorporation to become part of Los Angeles in the late
13 1920's; however, we remain sister communities and share
14 many entities including, and I have a list which pretty
15 covers the things that Nina just covered, but I'd like
16 to remind you that we have a local civic center which we
17 share, a city councilperson which we share, we have one
18 high school both Sunland and Tujunga share. We have
19 middle school, library and so forth. I won't go through
20 the rest of the list. We are an integrated melting pot
21 with fairly equal political mix.

22 This morning as I was listening to your hearing
23 from Sacramento, one of your reapportionment committee
24 members stated that you intend to protect the integrity
25 of the state's cities. When it comes to Sunland-Tujunga

1 located in the City of Los Angeles, you fail miserably.
2 According to the proposed redistricting, we in
3 Sunland-Tujunga are losing all three of our legislators.
4 Basically in each case we are being separated from Los
5 Angeles and the other cities to which we are tied by
6 geography and the Foothill corridor, including La
7 Crescenta, La Canada and Pasadena.

8 I believe Nina mentioned that we are a few
9 minutes, perhaps 15 or 20 minutes of the offices of all
10 of our legislators. We lose Assemblyperson Carol Liu in
11 District 44 and moved to District 48, which includes
12 both Simi Valley and Santa Clarita. There are 70 to 80
13 miles separating the east and west borders of this
14 district. Sunland-Tujunga lies in the easternmost six
15 miles, and we are at least 75 miles from the west part
16 of Simi.

17 Between Sunland-Tujunga and Simi lies the
18 entire San Fernando Valley and a large mountain range at
19 the west end of the San Fernando Valley. I know that
20 there are other ways to get to the west end of Simi, but
21 it's mostly by freeway.

22 We are separated from Santa Clarita by a huge
23 mountain range and travel from Sunland-Tujunga to Santa
24 Clarita almost primarily by freeway. We lose Jack
25 Scott, our State Senator, in our move from District 21

1 to District 17. This means we will be located in a
2 district with Palmdale, a High Desert community with
3 which we have nothing in common.

4 Again, we are separated by vast mileage and a
5 huge mountain range which is mostly covered by the Los
6 Angeles National Forest. But worse of all, and Nina
7 mentioned this, but I want to reiterate, we lose our
8 Congressional representative, Adam Schiff, in District
9 27 in a highly objectionable move which splits
10 Sunland-Tujunga in an east to west divide, leaving
11 constituents on the south side of our major thoroughfare
12 in Representative Berman's District No. 26, while
13 constituents to the north of our thoroughfare go into a
14 giant district, and I wish you'd all take a look at
15 this, particularly you up in that hearing room, as this
16 District No. 26 which brought constituents into the
17 giant District No. 25, represented by Buck McKuen. This
18 huge district includes the High Desert communities of
19 Santa Clarita, Palmdale, Lancaster and seven counties.
20 This district includes Yosemite and reaches all the way
21 to the Nevada border.

22 Sunland-Tujunga is a very small portion of Los,
23 Angeles and the part of our population moving into this
24 High Desert district represents only one percent of Los
25 Angeles' entire population. We have no business being

1 separated from the other 99 percent of the City of LA
2 and two-thirds of our own community.

3 Thank you for listening to me this afternoon.

4 (Applause.)

5 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
6 Ms. Brown. We appreciate your taking the time to come
7 here and next I believe we have Mayor David Rose from
8 South Pasadena.

9 MAYOR ROSE: Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman. My
10 name is David Rose, Mayor of South Pasadena, and on
11 behalf of that city and its council, I'd like to
12 respectfully request that you will keep us in the 21st
13 Senatorial District and not move us in the 22nd as
14 proposed.

15 We are certain we will have able and competent
16 representation whether we're in the 21st or the 22nd.
17 We enjoy a valuable, positive working relationship with
18 Senator Scott, we share common history and geography
19 with our neighbors to the north, and we would hope your
20 committee would recognize the historical affiliation
21 that South Pasadena has had with its neighbors to the
22 north and keep South Pasadena in the 21st Senatorial
23 District. Thank you, sir.

24 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much for
25 both your substantive message and brevity, and we will

1 make certain it's passed along to the conferees. Again,
2 thank you.

3 We will now be moving location. I would remind
4 the staff at LA Valley to go ahead and mute their mike
5 if they haven't already done so as we move to San
6 Bernardino, and the first witness to speak in San
7 Bernardino will be Inland Empire African American
8 Redistricting Coalition representative Walter Hawkins,
9 and, Walt, if you can go and speak up, that triggers
10 both the microphone and the camera the way our equipment
11 is set up.

12 MR. HAWKINS: Thank you, Chairman Longville.
13 I'm here today representing the inland area African
14 American Redistricting Committee due to the
15 unavailability of our president, and I just have several
16 comments to make today regarding the Inland Empire, the
17 High Desert and also some comments regarding the Los
18 Angeles County area.

19 First of all, as you're aware from the
20 testimony of some of the members of this coalition at
21 the hearing in this area that you chaired, the coalition
22 had some priorities locally and statewide. The local
23 priorities, of course, was that the Ebony Triangle and
24 the cities represented within that triangle be kept
25 together in the various areas of the Assembly, Senate

1 and Congressional districts, and those cities have been
2 kept together in the map you have released. We are very
3 appreciative of that. We think that's a very positive
4 action.

5 On the next level related to the High Desert,
6 we are in agreement with some of the members that spoke
7 earlier today from this area, the supervisor and the
8 mayors and city council members from some of the High
9 Desert cities, but I'd like to add another dimension to
10 their testimony and that is related to the fact that we
11 feel even from the African American community the
12 importance of keeping those High Desert cities of
13 Adelanto, Apple Valley and Hesperia together.

14 But from a different perspective, historically
15 in the last 30, 45 years the City of Apple Valley has
16 some covenants that were very detrimental to nonwhite
17 communities, and it was very explicit that if you were a
18 person of color you couldn't live in the community of
19 Apple Valley. So many of those African Americans who
20 came in through the service, who worked in the cement
21 plants and some of the Latinos who worked in the
22 railroad had to live down on the Mojave River or Del
23 Monte area and were not allowed to live in Apple Valley.

24 Once some of those things changed and the
25 communities were reorganized and people started to live

1 all throughout the valley there was a lot of improvement
2 in the working relationship.

3 We feel that in terms of the African American
4 community the alignment of the districts right now,
5 especially with the Assembly, would again create that
6 separation by putting Apple Valley into a different
7 category with the rest of the cities. So we feel from
8 the standpoint of those African Americans in the High
9 Desert that the current plan for the Assembly District
10 would not foster a positive relationship for them.

11 On the final note related to Los Angeles, we
12 concur with some of the comments made by our colleagues
13 from the Los Angeles area and we feel very strongly that
14 there needs to be some redrawing and tweaking of the
15 lines in the 47th, 48th, 51st and 52nd Assembly
16 districts as well as the Congressional districts. We
17 hope that in reviewing the plans that you would look
18 very closely at the tweaking of those lines that would
19 look at those historically African American districts.

20 And for a different reason, we've heard some of
21 your testimony from some of the members of the Asian
22 community, specifically we've talked about the fact that
23 Asian Americans now represent 13 percent of the State of
24 California, and we know that's true. And they are
25 wondering why there is no more especially Assembly

1 districts with a plurality of Asian Americans in those
2 areas, but I must also comment there is a very important
3 reason for that historically and that is because of the
4 history of our state in terms of residency patterns,
5 African Americans have been more highly concentrated.

6 So on some of the maps we saw today we saw the
7 fact that there were high percentages of the Asian
8 Americans, Latinos, and African Americans in certain
9 communities, but the concentrations are much different.
10 So, therefore, the ability of the African American
11 community to have representation much earlier in the
12 history of California was for those reasons.

13 We feel it's very important right now because
14 of the continued patterns of residency in Los Angeles
15 that you can draw lines that will still be fair to
16 African American, Latino and Asian American communities,
17 and we would hope that the committee would consider that
18 in their revisions in the next two weeks. Thank you.

19 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
20 and I should also note, by the way in introducing
21 Mr. Hawkins I neglected to give him proper respect as
22 his title. He's a member of the Rialto Unified School
23 District Board of Trustees, and thank you, Board Member
24 Hawkins.

25 Our next speaker will also be from the San

1 Bernardino site and that is Victorville councilmember
2 Bob Hunter. Please go ahead to the rostrum,
3 Councilmember.

4 MR. HUNTER: Thank you, Chairman Longville and
5 committee members. On behalf of the City of
6 Victorville, our council and our 65,000 citizens, I
7 would like to thank you for the opportunity to
8 participate in this hearing.

9 I'm here like the rest of our High Desert
10 council members, the supervisor, to ask for your
11 reconsideration of the proposed Assembly, Senatorial and
12 Congressional districts that affect the Victor Valley
13 region and our 300,000 population.

14 Currently as the draft plan for the Assembly,
15 Senate and Congressional districts stand, the Victor
16 Valley has been divided. When you paint a picture of
17 this of how we feel in the Victor Valley, we are the
18 chicken at Sunday dinner, and after that beautiful
19 chicken is put on the table, it's been picked apart at
20 the end of the dinner and all that's left is an empty
21 carcass, and we believe that's what the Victor Valley
22 has become is an empty carcass.

23 This action not only diminishes our political
24 clout, but ultimately will affect our ability to
25 successfully meet the needs of our growing population in

1 industry. Without a strong unified voice, the Victor
2 Valley will have little success in lobbying for key
3 legislation that will set the tone for the pace and type
4 of growth we will experience.

5 Additionally, one of the critical issues in the
6 Victor Valley, this will split the effect of our JPA.
7 The Victor Valley Economic Development Authority JPA is
8 a regional JPA which has been very effective, and I
9 believe that's one of the issues we need to look at
10 strongly for continuing the continuity in the Victor
11 Valley and keeping the cities together.

12 The Victor Valley communities share a similar
13 geography, air quality and growth policies. We are
14 emerging from a rural lifestyle to an urban lifestyle.
15 Under the proposed districts, our needs will take a back
16 seat to the more urban areas of the proposed districts.
17 Without a unified Victor Valley within our district, we
18 stand little chance of receiving equal representation
19 when scattered among numerous districts when we
20 represent a small contingency.

21 While we believe Victorville has fared somewhat
22 better in the redistricting plan than other communities
23 and we would welcome the opportunity to work with
24 Assemblyman Runner and Congressman Keehan, this draft
25 plan will break up the institutional memory of the

1 valley which is very important, which is so critical to
2 our continued growth.

3 Congressman Willis has been a vital part of our
4 success, and his knowledge of the issues facing our
5 valley are imperative to maintain for our community.

6 In closing, let me say that this redistricting
7 plan is not good government and not in the best interest
8 of our communities at all. I would urge your careful
9 reconsideration of the proposed changes and keep the
10 Victor Valley together, and I might add also at our
11 council meeting last night we voted in three resolutions
12 in not supporting the current redistricting and
13 requesting the state to reconsider the redistricting at
14 this point.

15 Chairman Longville, I appreciate your time. It
16 was good seeing you. Thank you.

17 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you for taking
18 the time to be here again. We appreciate your driving
19 down over the hill. I believe we have another person
20 who drove a little ways to get there, someone with whom
21 I've served in the past in regional government,
22 councilmember from Twentynine Palms, Mr. Jim Bagley.
23 Welcome Jim.

24 MR. BAGLEY: Thank you, Chairman Longville and
25 the committee. I am wearing two hats today as I

1 represent SANBAG also.

2 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: That explains some of
3 the missing hair, Jim. Those two hats have rubbed some
4 of that hair off.

5 MR. BAGLEY: It was waiting in this hearing was
6 what happened, I think.

7 As president of the SANBAG and San Bernardino
8 Associated Governments, which is all the cities of the
9 San Bernardino County and County of San Bernardino, have
10 drafted a letter to send to the committee expressing
11 concern about carving up communities of interest.

12 San Bernardino County is the largest county in
13 the State of California, and we have certainly been
14 gerrymandered to an unacceptable level. I have that
15 letter in written form to submit to the committee. I'd
16 like to leave that with the staff.

17 I also am a councilmember from Twentynine
18 Palms, and it is that hat that I am wearing primarily in
19 my testimony before you today. The City of Twentynine
20 Palms is in what is known geopolitically as the Morongo
21 Basin, which is Yucca Valley and Joshua Tree.

22 In the last redistricting process we were
23 gerrymandered into the 65th district where we were taken
24 into a district that goes across county lines and we
25 were included with a cities Hemet, San Jacinto and

1 Marina Valley.

2 Now, if the purpose of redistricting is
3 creating logical communities of interest to serve the
4 greater public good, that sort of geopolitical
5 engineering in an Assembly District does not serve that
6 purpose.

7 In the new proposed maps, that gerrymandering
8 process will continue and the City of Twentynine Palms
9 will be the very eastern edge of once again an urban
10 dominated Assembly District which is tied down in the
11 center of Riverside County, very much physically away
12 from us and in an area where we don't have a community
13 of interest.

14 Now, I am going to suggest to the committee
15 that there were logical adjustments to boundaries that
16 would have served the Morongo Basin much better. We
17 have a community of interest with the greater Victor
18 Valley area and the desert cities of Riverside County.
19 The 64th Assembly District which includes Palm Springs
20 and the greater Coachella Valley is a logical community
21 of interest for the Morongo Basin.

22 The Victor Valley area, which is Victorville
23 and Barstow and Needles and the greater desert cities of
24 San Bernardino County, serve a community of interest
25 with the Morongo Basin. Both of those basins included

1 carving out areas of population to go into more
2 urbanized areas.

3 In the case of Victorville, you've heard how
4 Hesperia and Apple Valley were carved out of the Victor
5 Valley into the urbanized district in San Bernardino,
6 putting Apple Valley into urbanized district in San
7 Bernardino. That does not serve the public good for the
8 Victor Valley area or for the communities down the hill
9 that now are going to be in that new Assembly District.

10 I think the Morongo Basin needs to stay in a
11 greater Assembly District. There is an opportunity to
12 redraw this map to do what is right, and I believe
13 that's what needs to happen.

14 We in the City of Twentynine Palms just
15 incorporated the Marine Corps base into our boundaries,
16 and under the proposed maps in both the Senate and on
17 the Assembly side that population has been carved out of
18 our city.

19 We are now proposed to go into a Senate
20 District that is going to be -- the bottom end will be
21 Twentynine Palms and it goes all the way up and will be
22 dominated by the urban city of Bakersfield in the 18th
23 district, taking in Needles and all the way up into
24 Death Valley. There is no way that one can arguably
25 present that that is a logical community of interest

1 representing the voters for either Bakersfield or the
2 city of Twentynine Palms.

3 There is plenty of opportunity to do what's
4 right with these maps. A lot of these communities that
5 were carved out of areas have more to do with the
6 political ambitions of those who made these maps than
7 the actual best interests of the communities that these
8 districts should serve. This is about good government
9 and serving the public interest, and the Assembly and
10 Senate districts and Congressional districts for the
11 State of California can easily be drawn into communities
12 of interest if you remove the specter of partisan
13 politic engineering, which is what is the result of the
14 maps that we have today.

15 And if the State Assembly and Senate are
16 incapable of doing that, I believe this process needs to
17 go back and be challenged in court and a new format be
18 presented for the drawing of these maps; but claiming
19 that there are somehow communities of interest between
20 Bakersfield and the City of Twentynine Palms and San
21 Bernardino County and San Jacinto and Riverside County
22 and Twentynine Palms makes no logical sense, it deflates
23 the purpose of this process, it's not good government
24 and it doesn't serve the better common good. Thank you.

25 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,

1 Councilmember Bagley. And again we will pass all of
2 your remarks on to the conferees and hope that they are
3 able to accommodate them.

4 The next witnesses will be coming from another
5 site, and thank my friends in San Bernardino for this
6 segment. We move now for a moment to Santa Ana again,
7 and I please ask the next witness to excuse me if I
8 again am having difficulty with the name. I believe
9 it's Xuan Vu. It's X-u-a-n, last name V-u, from Garden
10 Grove. And please go ahead and speak up. We have you
11 already in view.

12 MS. VU: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My name is
13 Xuan Vu, and I'm a board member with the Orange County
14 Asian Pacific Islander Community Alliance, also known as
15 OCAPICA. We're a nonprofit community-based organization
16 providing social services to the Orange County's Asian
17 Pacific Islander American population. I would like to
18 thank this committee for giving us the opportunity to
19 provide input regarding the newly drawn districts.

20 The Asian Pacific Islander community in Orange
21 County make up 14 percent and we are among the fastest
22 growing community in the entire county. The reason we,
23 OCAPICA, got involved in redistricting was three
24 reasons: We wanted to ensure that Little Saigon and
25 Koreatown business districts are kept together in one

1 single district; we want to be sure that our voices are
2 being heard by our elected officials; but number three,
3 and more importantly, we wanted to ensure that our votes
4 are not being diluted.

5 What I'm going to address is primarily focusing
6 on 68th Assembly District. While we are very glad that
7 Little Saigon and the Koreatown business districts are
8 kept together, we were very disappointed to see that the
9 new district has the net effect of decreasing the
10 population of Asian Americans within that district. If
11 you had left it alone, the population trend would have
12 shown that the growth would have been more beneficial to
13 the Asian American community.

14 What we would like for the committee to
15 consider is the new proposal that's CAPAFR, the
16 Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair
17 Redistricting. We believe that this map better
18 represents the interests of the Asian American
19 community. So once again I ask the committee to
20 consider the map that CAPAFR has presented to you by
21 other members who testified this morning because we feel
22 the new district doesn't really benefit our community in
23 the sense that it dilutes our vote more than it is right
24 now; and by linking north and central Orange County with
25 those of south Orange County, which has never been

1 happened before, it doesn't make any sense because the
2 two communities primarily are very different. So we ask
3 the committee again take a look at the maps and the new
4 proposal that CAPAFR has presented.

5 And with that, I want to thank the committee
6 for allowing me to speak. Thank you.

7 ASSEMBLY MEMBER ASHBURN: Thank you very much
8 for your testimony and for participating today.

9 Now, we're going to move to Los Angeles south
10 for June Burlingame Smith.

11 MS. SMITH: Hello, Chairman Longville. Thank
12 you very much for hearing our testimony. My name is
13 June Burlingame Smith, and I'm a resident of San Pedro,
14 Point Fermin area. I'm also a member of the Point
15 Fermin Residents Association.

16 I rise to speak today against the proposed
17 Congressional District for the south of San Pedro and
18 the new Senate District for the south of San Pedro.
19 They do not serve our community interests at all, and I
20 want to specifically mention to you one particular
21 problem that we are working on very hard in Los Angeles,
22 and that is the Department of Neighborhood Empowerments.

23 We have just gone through almost a year of a
24 series of hearings attended between four and five
25 hundred people at each meeting dealing with the Port of

1 Los Angeles. These hearings were held not only in San
2 Pedro, but also in Wilmington, and we have similar
3 interests, we have similar problems and we are trying to
4 work together as communities to work with the Port of
5 Los Angeles to better serve our community interests.

6 However, the gerrymandering for both the Senate
7 District and the Congressional District will split San
8 Pedro once again. We had that before and it didn't
9 work, once again from the communities of Wilmington and
10 the rest of San Pedro, and it exacerbates our problems
11 in trying to get together these department and
12 neighborhood councils.

13 The port is the gorilla in our area. We are
14 just beginning to have some movement and dialogue and
15 interface between the Chamber of Commerce, the
16 redevelopment of both Wilmington and downtown San Pedro,
17 the community interest in Point Fermin, the recreational
18 interests and all the rest, and we have been working
19 very hard with our old councilperson and our new
20 councilperson in order to have a more cohesive community
21 based on those port interests.

22 I am sorry, but the Senate map that you have
23 drawn, not you personally, but that is being suggested
24 here and the Congressional map which will again put us
25 under the purview of someone who comes from someplace

1 other than our area and will be working from, not from
2 our interests, but probably from something else, does
3 not understand or really have the authority with the
4 Port of Los Angeles, is really going to be very, very
5 destructive and difficult for us to work with.

6 I plead with you, I beg of you, please, do not
7 do this to us again. Thank you.

8 ASSEMBLYMEMBER ASHBURN: Thank you very much
9 for your testimony. Now, we'll hear from Winston K. Wu.

10 MR. WU: Thank you, Vice Chair Ashburn. My
11 name is Winston K. Wu. I'm speaking on behalf of the
12 Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting of San
13 Gabriel Valley, which is a part of the statewide
14 coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair
15 Redistricting. I'm also past president of the Los
16 Angeles lodge of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance
17 and currently serving on the alliance national board of
18 directors and as the co-chair of the education
19 committee.

20 Our alliance was founded in 1895. We have well
21 over a hundred years of advocating for our civil rights,
22 for equal educational, economic and political
23 opportunities and for the general welfare of our
24 committee. In my activities with the education
25 committee youth programs, I learn about the issues of

1 concern of our high schools and college students,
2 through essay contests, scholarships, youth training
3 workshops, internships and youth leadership council.

4 I would like to share with you my recent
5 experience with my young people. This summer when I
6 asked our internship candidates about the most important
7 issues facing our community, political
8 under-representation is the one at the top of the list.
9 Currently we have one city councilperson of APA descent
10 serving Monterey Park, a city with an Asian American
11 majority in population. None has been elected to city
12 council in all the neighboring west San Gabriel Valley
13 cities in the 49th district.

14 Also, despite the fact that API population is
15 almost 13 percent of the state population, only four out
16 of 120 legislators are of APA descent.

17 On another issue, in her newsletter report to
18 our alliance membership after attending our youth
19 leadership conference in August, our new representative,
20 Alice Wong, a recent graduate of high school in Alhambra
21 stated, and I quote:

22 "We also got to witness an excerpt
23 from 'We Served with Pride, the
24 Chinese experience in World War II',
25 which allowed me to learn that many

1 Asian Americans actually served in
2 World War II, a topic that was never
3 highlighted in my school by history
4 teachers, even though my school's
5 majority is Asian Americans."

6 Miss Wong felt that was relevant historical
7 information that she would like to know but did not
8 learn that from her school curriculum.

9 I can cite other examples where our young
10 people in our community felt left out. It is important
11 in our community to have a meaningful political voice to
12 ensure equal opportunity in social service programs,
13 education, jobs and businesses. Yet in the APA
14 political summit held on July 28th this year with over
15 250 people in attendance, young and old, high school
16 students and seasoned community leaders, new immigrants
17 and those with long-time roots in the community, I can
18 feel a sense of enthusiasm that we are at the threshold
19 of a new area of political empowerment and on the verge
20 of becoming full participants in our American democracy.
21 The Assembly's proposed 49th district, by uniting the
22 four core cities into a single district, would give our
23 community an opportunity to fulfill that potential.

24 During this past year, the CAPAFR San Gabriel
25 Valley consisting of concerned citizens from various

1 backgrounds and community groups came together to learn
2 about the redistricting process and to ensure that the
3 API community voice is heard.

4 We have identified two priorities important to
5 protecting our community interests and ability to have a
6 meaningful vote. The 49th district should, one, hold
7 the four cities of Alhambra, Monterey Park, Rosemead and
8 San Gabriel together and, two, be placed squarely San
9 Gabriel Valley in order to fully represent our unique
10 interests.

11 We commend Assembly committee and the
12 Legislature in responding to these two priorities. We
13 found your proposed 49th district responsive to the two
14 priorities, while providing a balance between the Latino
15 and Asian Pacific American community interests.

16 Unfortunately, the same thing cannot be said
17 about the Senatorial District 24 and Congressional
18 District 31 where the four core cities are split up. We
19 urge you to stay the course and not to dilute our
20 population in the 49th district.

21 I'd like to thank the committee for conducting
22 these hearings and giving us the opportunity to share
23 our input. Thank you for your time and patience.

24 ASSEMBLY MEMBER ASHBURN: Thank you very much,
25 sir. Our next presenter is Mr. Inbo Sim.

1 MR. SIM: My name is Inbo Sim. I'm an
2 executive director of Korean Resource Center. To save
3 time, I will be reading off my statement.

4 The current resource center has served
5 Koreatown area since 1983. We have provided a wide
6 range of education, advocacy and social service for
7 Korean American immigrants and Korean immigrant
8 community. A Koreatown in Los Angeles, a major gateway
9 for recent immigrants, has grown proportionally over the
10 years to accommodate growing numbers of immigrants.
11 Also, Korean Americans comprise a large part of
12 Koreatown. The area also encompasses a significant
13 population of other immigrant communities which share
14 similar interests in low income and immigrant-related
15 issues.

16 As Koreatown has been divided into several
17 district in 1990's, this diluted the political potential
18 of these immigrant communities. In response to a State
19 Assembly proposed District 9 to 46th district, though we
20 respectfully acknowledge that this redistricting has
21 kept Koreatown more intact than in the previous
22 redistricting, we would like to point out an area of
23 oversight with regard to this community where we work
24 and serve.

25 Namely, the State Assembly proposed map has

1 failed to keep all of Koreatown intact by drawing
2 District 9 to cut out western quarter of Koreatown. We
3 wish to advocate for mapping proposal of 46th district
4 submitted by Coalition of the Asian Pacific Americans
5 for Fair Redistricting to the State Assembly. In this
6 map, all of Koreatown is represented intact included in
7 the 46th District.

8 However, in State Assembly proposed map the
9 46th district now cuts out of list one-quarter of
10 Koreatown on the western side, a vital Asian Pacific
11 Islander American business and residents. The area west
12 of Arlington Avenue, including Crenshaw Boulevard, a
13 major thoroughfare of Asian American business, is not
14 included in the state proposed map. In fact, our
15 community organization which serve all of Koreatown and
16 function as a center for culture and social service for
17 Koreatown residents is not included in 46th district.

18 Furthermore, the surrounding resident area of
19 our community based organization which is made up of
20 almost 80 percent of Asian Pacific Islander American
21 residents is not included in the State Assembly map.

22 We urge State Assembly to redraw the district
23 boundaries to include all of Koreatown in 46th district.
24 The western quarter that includes Arlington and Crenshaw
25 Boulevard is the integral part of Koreatown and should

1 be included with the rest of the community. In fact, a
2 growing number of Asian Americans in more residential
3 areas of Hancock Park located on the northwest border of
4 Koreatown speaks to the importance of keeping the
5 western corner of Koreatown intact when redrawing
6 district boundaries.

7 To prevent further likely segmentation of Asian
8 American community, both residing in Koreatown and to
9 the west of Koreatown, we urge the State Assembly to
10 include in its mapping the western quarter of Koreatown
11 in 46th district, and we also urge the State Assembly to
12 not dilute the political strength of our community.
13 Thank you.

14 ASSEMBLY MEMBER ASHBURN: Thank you very much,
15 Mr. Sim. Our next witness who is listed is Dan Jacobson
16 in Sacramento. Is Mr. Jacobson here?

17 How about Susan Jordan?

18 Next on the list is Pete Price from Sacramento.

19 Those are the witnesses who are listed here.
20 Are there others? I would point out to those who may be
21 at the remote locations that the last three witnesses
22 are identified for the Sacramento hearing. They do not
23 appear to be present, have not come forward. So next on
24 the list is David Klamini in Sacramento. He does not
25 appear to be here. Next is Das Williams from Ventura at

1 Los Angeles north.

2 Mr. Das Williams, if you are at your location,
3 if you'll simply speak into the microphone, that will
4 activate the camera.

5 MR. OFFERMAN: Good afternoon. Honorable
6 Committee Members, I am Steve Offerman, not Das
7 Williams. I am chief of staff to Ventura County
8 Supervisor Steve Bennett of Ventura, and would like to
9 address the Assembly and State Senate boundaries for
10 Ventura County. These comments represent those of
11 Supervisor Bennett.

12 After having just completed our county
13 supervisorial redistricting plan, I'm well aware that
14 redistricting is a complex issue that presents many
15 challenges to the Legislature. Modifying any one
16 district is complicated by the impacts upon other
17 districts. Nevertheless, I welcome this opportunity for
18 public input and want to share with you my thoughts
19 regarding the effects of the Senate-Assembly
20 redistricting within my supervisorial district and upon
21 the constituents that I represent.

22 Regarding the Assembly districts, I'm concerned
23 that splitting the City of Oxnard divides a community of
24 interest and would also like to point out that the Ojai
25 Valley establishes much more of a community of interest

1 with the City of Ventura than with the eastern Ventura
2 County cities it is proposed to be located within.

3 Regarding the Senate District boundaries, I
4 would like to point out that traditionally the first
5 supervisorial district of Ventura County has been
6 represented by a 19th Senate District that is a coastal
7 district. The currently proposed 19th Senate District
8 does not maintain this coastal emphasis, and, therefore,
9 may be less focused on issues such as offshore oil
10 drillings, beach erosion and ocean water quality that
11 are critical to the residents of coastal Ventura County.

12 I respectfully encourage you, therefore, to
13 consider the creation of a more coastal 19th Senate
14 district that would include the coastal cities of Oxnard
15 and Port Hueneme, both of which have harbors and both of
16 which have strong coastal tourism based industries in
17 their communities.

18 Again, thank you for the opportunity to speak.

19 ASSEMBLY MEMBER ASHBURN: Thank you, sir, very
20 much. We appreciate your comments.

21 Is Das Williams there?

22 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, vice chair. I am here.

23 ASSEMBLY MEMBER ASHBURN: Okay. Go right
24 ahead.

25 MR. WILLIAMS: Members of the committee, I

1 represent the Ventura County redistricting task force ad
2 hoc committee drawn from labor, Latino, environmental
3 and women's organizations in Ventura County.

4 Members, you're going to see a lot of folks
5 from Ventura and Santa Barbara County here today and let
6 me prepare you. They are quite angry, and they're angry
7 because they feel that their counties, that the Central
8 Coast has been abandoned. We feel that without question
9 the Senate plan in particular that has been unveiled
10 fails to meet the communities of interest standard that
11 the courts have established.

12 The majority of people that live on the Central
13 Coast fall into generally one of two demographics. Side
14 by side in every city from San Luis Obispo, Santa
15 Barbara to Ventura and Oxnard we have coastal
16 neighborhoods concerned about the environment and
17 quality of life issues living side by side with working
18 class, largely Latino communities that are pro labor and
19 concerned about educational and economic betterment.

20 For decades we have had legislative
21 representation that has balanced these two communities
22 and has represented them both, and we've worked together
23 for improvements in education, the environment, and now
24 most recently the living wage.

25 These communities are interlinked by complex

1 economic, social, and political relationships and this
2 plan threatens to break those bonds. The proposed plan
3 would disenfranchise both communities, having their
4 voting power split between three districts overshadowed
5 by more suburban, culturally homogeneous Simi Valley and
6 Thousand Oaks.

7 Now, Simi and Thousand Oaks, they deserve their
8 representation as well, but they're far to the east of
9 outside on a high plateau, far from the coast and
10 farther still from us culturally, socioeconomically and
11 demographically.

12 Santa Barbara, Goleta, Ventura, Oxnard, Ojai,
13 the Santa Clara Valley and Port Hueneme belong together.
14 Please do not divide the Central Coast. We implore you.
15 There is no reason to fear an initiative challenge that
16 cannot hope to succeed. We deserve one Senator that
17 works for our communities, not three strangers. Amend
18 this plan before it comes to the floor, please.

19 (Applause.)

20 ASSEMBLY MEMBER ASHBURN: Thank you,
21 Mr. Williams. Next is Councilwoman Laura Flores
22 Espinosa. Welcome.

23 MS. ESPINOSA: Good afternoon, committee
24 members. I am Laura Flores Espinosa from the City of
25 Santa Paula, a councilmember. I'm representing our city

1 and the Santa Clara Valley, which includes Piru and
2 Fillmore. I'm here today with Ray Shock.

3 Last week our city settled a U. S. Department
4 of Justice lawsuit over voter dilution. The next day we
5 opened the newspapers to see the proposed maps and to
6 all of our dismay, Santa Paula was placed in a district,
7 proposed district with a strong Republican
8 representative to further dilute our vote.

9 This has tremendous impact on the morale, of
10 course, in the community, but let me give you some idea
11 of what our community of interest is. We are an
12 agricultural community with 71 percent Latino
13 population. Our city is in the middle of the Santa
14 Clara Valley, also known as the Heritage Valley.

15 We ask that you respect this community of
16 interest. We have nothing in common with our
17 neighboring cities across major canyons of Valcon Canyon
18 and Grice Canyon. There is a major geographic problem
19 there.

20 Our economics, we are in a depressed community
21 being lumped in with a very high end community,
22 communities actually, of Thousand Oaks, Moorpark and
23 Camarillo.

24 Santa Paula is a stronghold of Democratic
25 votes. In the last Assembly race, we won every single

1 precinct for the Democratic candidate Assembly
2 Hannah-Beth Jackson. That was a tremendous feat. The
3 opposing candidate was from Santa Paula. Every single
4 precinct.

5 Our Hispanic voter population, the registration
6 is currently 51.5 percent. The turnout in the last
7 election was 48.5. We are voting. That is almost a
8 hundred percent turnout for us.

9 Please don't dampen the spirit of those newly
10 registered voters. Those efforts should not be
11 penalized. They should be recognized for this feat of
12 accomplishment. Don't slam the door on the
13 participation of this rising activity in the political
14 process.

15 You have criteria that you must consider. We
16 ask that you stick to that criteria, respect that
17 criteria set forth, protecting the communities of
18 interest, the geographic compactness. Avoid these
19 natural boundaries that separate our cities and remember
20 the voter cohesiveness. Please prevent this dilution of
21 minority voting strength. Remember, a shared democracy
22 is a strong democracy and we ask for your
23 reconsideration of the proposed maps as you have
24 proposed them. Thank you very much.

25 (Applause.)

00537

1 (Whereupon, the following proceedings were
2 reported by Leigh Ann Orozco:)

3 ASSEMBLYMEMBER ASHBURN: Thank you very much,
4 Councilmember.

5 And next is Irma Lopez from Oxnard. Welcome.

6 MS. LOPEZ: Good afternoon, Chairman Ashburn,
7 and members of the committee.

8 I am here today as a longtime active person in
9 the City of Oxnard. We -- and also to let you know that
10 this is the third hearing that I have been to. The
11 first one starting in 1981, 1991, and now fighting the
12 battles continuously in 2001.

13 Sometimes we hope that if we try to become part
14 of the democratic process, that we will be heard. And I
15 think that's what the City of Oxnard has done. We have
16 been members of coalitions within our county and
17 coalitions with the County of Santa Barbara for 30
18 years, and we have shared the same representation over
19 those years.

20 I think that what the city -- what the
21 committee has come out with -- or the redistricting has
22 been terrible for the City of Oxnard. We are the
23 largest city, with close to 180,000 residents, in the
24 County of Ventura. We are also the 20th largest city in
25 the state of California. We have worked very hard over

00538

1 these years to motivate our residents to get out and
2 vote and be part of the process, and it has taken a long
3 time, but we finally have arrived at these decisions.

4 We happen to have an elected mayor, Dr. Manuel
5 Lopez, who is very, very opposed to this plan that has
6 come out. He is sorry to say that he cannot be here
7 with you today. He is chairing a countywide program,
8 and it was extremely important to our city.

9 But our residents are very opposed to what you
10 are trying to do. We have -- In the Assembly district,
11 you have divided us in half, and that is a very bad
12 payment for a city that has worked to franchise its
13 residents. And to be cut in half, down the middle
14 almost, and put us in a Senatorial district -- Even
15 though the representative is wonderful. I admire her.
16 But this is not about individuals. This is about our
17 community. And our community, to be put in a district
18 that shares Beverly Hills, shares Malibu, Santa Monica
19 and that area, that is totally different.

20 We are a strong agricultural community, a very
21 minority-based. We have the largest group of
22 residents -- of Afro-American residents in the county,
23 Filipino-Americans, Korean-American, Chinese-Americans,
24 and predominantly we are Latino. We are 65 percent
25 Latino. We have six school districts that encompass our

00539

1 city, four elementary school districts and one high
2 school district and part of the community college
3 district. All of those are scattered throughout these
4 districts. We are separated by the boundaries. Our
5 school districts are 85 percent Latino, the children.
6 So you are disenfranchising those people that will be
7 the future voters and hopefully that want to be a part
8 of our democratic party and work and be members one day,
9 to aspire to be members of the city council, to be
10 members of the school district and members of the
11 Assembly, Senate and Congressional districts.

12 We just had a situation where the school
13 supervisorial districts were brought up, and we ended up
14 with three supervisors. And there was a vote to make it
15 four in the City of Oxnard. That has been done. We
16 ended up with three. We are not pleased about that.
17 But I would hope that this board -- that your committee
18 would take into account that we in the City of Oxnard,
19 we're the largest members of a minority group in the
20 county, and extremely large statewide, should be in an
21 area that would more closely reflect our community of
22 interest, being agricultural and contiguous with western
23 Ventura County up to Santa Barbara. And we have worked
24 very closely over many years with our friends in those
25 areas, and we want to continue to do that.

00540

1 It is -- We also have an area in the 3rd
2 Assembly -- the 3rd Assembly district right now that
3 would be predominantly the 23rd and the 30 -- no, excuse
4 me -- the 41st and the 35th Assembly district. But a
5 part of the 37th also would take into its area --
6 unincorporated area of our county, which is called El
7 Rio where my husband happened to be born in, which
8 has -- carries our same zip code. When you address
9 letters to residents, close to 9,000 residents in that
10 area, it is addressed to Oxnard, California, 93030. We
11 don't have any land that separates us, agricultural
12 land. We are contiguous. The children move -- go back
13 and forth as far as living and that. And so I would ask
14 you to please reconsider these lines.

15 We know that everyone would hope that, all our
16 residents in the whole state and the country for that
17 matter, would want to be a part of a democratic process,
18 and that is what we try to do in our city and our county
19 and give you -- if you continue with these plans that
20 you have put before us, I think it will hurt those
21 prospects and also continue to -- people to say that,
22 you know, it doesn't matter what we do, they will turn
23 around and do -- the politicians will do what they want.
24 And, you know, that is something that is very difficult
25 to have to go to your people and explain that.

00541

1 So, I would hope, again, that you would put us
2 in an Assembly district, keep -- primarily keep the City
3 of Oxnard whole. Keep us whole with the City of Port
4 Hueneme and the unincorporated of Oxnard, which is El
5 Rio, keep us together. And I think our best interests
6 are with the interests of Western Ventura County and
7 Santa Barbara.

8 Thank you very much.

9 ASSEMBLYMEMBER ASHBURN: Thank you, Ms. Lopez.

10 Now, we are going to move to San Bernardino.
11 Anita Hammerschlag is next on our list.

12 MS. HAMMERSCHLAG: Thank you for giving me the
13 opportunity to speak. And you're probably wondering why
14 a Democrat from the southwest portion of Riverside
15 County would come forward to speak before the
16 redistricting committee. And I'm concerned about how
17 the communities have been split with this new
18 redistricting.

19 The 66 Assembly district, that is the City of
20 Lake Elsinore, Murietta and Temecula. The boundaries of
21 the 80th and the 65th split the communities of Sun City
22 and Murietta, and I believe a portion of Temecula. And
23 it doesn't quite make sense if you are looking for any
24 continuity in these areas.

25 The -- The southwest county is nearly two to

00542

1 one in favor of Republicans. The Democratic party is
2 working to change that and increase the Democratic
3 registration. I'm here to speak on behalf of the
4 Temecula/Murietta Democratic Club and the 66th AD.

5 The 66th AD has a viable candidate to run for
6 the Assembly district seat in 2002. At the present
7 time, with the new redistricting, we don't know if he
8 live in the 66th or the 80th AD. I'm here to request
9 that consideration be made for this candidate,
10 Mr. Brownstone, and include the area of Little Mar,
11 where he moved to two weeks ago, in the 66th Assembly
12 district.

13 Thank you for this opportunity.

14 ASSEMBLYMEMBER ASHBURN: Thank you very much.

15 Next is Patrick Smith at San Bernardino.

16 MR. SMITH: I would like to thank the committee
17 members, especially those who have stuck with us for the
18 whole afternoon and waited to hear public comments. Not
19 just those elected officials, but the public as well and
20 those who have come out here. Really taught me a lot
21 just standing here talking to them about this process.

22 My concern is very specific and direct, and I
23 would limit my comments to just that one area.
24 Specifically, it has been published in news reports
25 regarding the use of political consultants and the

00543

1 drawing of the district lines. Specifically, there was
2 a report in the Orange County Register which quoted US
3 Representative Sanchez regarding the process. They
4 painted a picture of district boundaries for sale to the
5 highest bidder and a process of extortion where existing
6 representatives who did not submit the 20 pieces of
7 silver to the Democratic consultant would be a risk to
8 their district.

9 My request to the committee is very direct.
10 Just that full disclosure be used and every use of a
11 consultant during this process be disclosed to the
12 public on the public website, and that these consultants
13 be encouraged to also disclose their other funding
14 sources during this process. That's -- In the interest
15 of the other speakers here, I'm just going to limit it
16 to that.

17 I'm a member of the 59th District and candidate
18 for the Assembly there. It is a challenge for a
19 Democratic contender, but I look forward to those, and
20 I will thank you all.

21 ASSEMBLYMEMBER ASHBURN: Thank you, Mr. Smith.

22 Next is Lewis Vandenberg.

23 VOICE IN THE AUDIENCE: Lewis Vandenberg is not
24 here, so we will have to go with the next speaker.

25 ASSEMBLYMEMBER ASHBURN: Who would be M.J. Dube

00544

1 from Twentynine Palms.

2 MR. DUBE: That's correct. Thank you,
3 Mr. Chairman. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

4 I don't want to regurgitate the comments
5 previously made. So, my comments are going to be
6 relatively short.

7 For about -- four decades in the Marine Corps,
8 I go for the jugular. Like my friends and prior
9 speakers have said, I propose that the redistricting
10 be -- have another look. Gerrymandering of districts
11 should have the best interests of all constituents
12 within the proposed boundaries in mind. And what we in
13 the desert communities find is that we are being
14 gerrymandered with communities in sections of districts
15 with which we have no common interest. I think Jim
16 Bagely explained that quite well. In fact, an argument
17 can be made that we would be forced to suffer the
18 largest interest at our expense for their causes rather
19 than the common good for the next decade.

20 It's true that our members are small and we're
21 scattered, but that's no reason to fragment our
22 representation. We do not have commonality of vital
23 interest with communities so far removed as places like
24 Hemet. I don't know how those districts were drawn.

25 I do know that, Mr. Chairman, when you looked

1 at redistricting such as proposed at the California
2 State Senate districts for 2001, this map here that has
3 the Yucca Valley carved out of Morongo Valley, it makes
4 me wonder if somebody's yak milk was fermented and it
5 went to the originator's head.

6 When we speak of Morongo Valley, we always try
7 to speak in one voice. We always attempt to coordinate
8 everything that we do up there in Morongo Valley
9 together. And this proposal rips out Yucca Valley out
10 of the Morongo Valley.

11 We talked -- When we speak of organizations, we
12 talk about JPA, joint powers of authorities. We talk of
13 districts, mountain desert districts, and we speak of
14 organizations that mean unity. And I chair a couple of
15 committees where -- for the League of California Cities,
16 and we emphasize unity in everything that we do. And
17 whenever we meet, we place a lot of emphasis on working
18 together. And when we see our communities, adjacent
19 communities, ripped out from under us, those same
20 communities that we are supposed to be working with and
21 coordinating with, it makes us wonder what's going on.

22 It is almost -- When you look at some of these
23 maps, it is almost -- you can almost picture somebody
24 throwing a dart at a map and, having missed the mark,
25 drawing the picture around that dart that was errant and

00546

1 then going ahead and promulgating that map and saying,
2 "That's the way it's going to go."

3 I think we need to restore a very important
4 element of the process, Mr. Chairman. I think we need
5 to place an element called common sense to the entire
6 process, and I would hope that in the reconsideration of
7 the process that that element comes to the fore and we
8 get due consideration to keep our communities and common
9 interests together.

10 Thank you very much for your time.

11 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
12 Mr. Mayor, for your taking the time to come out here.
13 And also I appreciate, as we are having to run off to
14 other locations momentarily, I appreciate that --
15 Assemblymember Ashburn holding the fort here for me and
16 making sure that my friends in San Bernardino were
17 treated well.

18 We will next be moving to the Los Angeles North
19 location, which is LA Valley College. We will be coming
20 back to the San Bernardino folks in a little bit, but
21 for the moment we are going back to Los Angeles Valley
22 College.

23 And representing the South Pasadena Historical
24 Society, I believe I'm going to be hearing from
25 Ms. Clarice Knapp.

00547

1 MS. KNAPP: Good afternoon. Thank you for the
2 opportunity to comment to you.

3 I am on the South Pasadena Preservation
4 Foundation Board. I was the longest-term city cultural
5 heritage commissioner, eight and a half years, in South
6 Pasadena.

7 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Ms. Knapp, I'm sorry.
8 Can I interrupt you for just one moment?

9 Let me double check and ask if the folks at the
10 other locations can be sure they have their mics muted.
11 I was hearing some noise that I suspect one of the mics
12 in another location was live and it was making it harder
13 to hear you.

14 So presumably they've taken care of that, and
15 go ahead and proceed.

16 MS. KNAPP: Okay. Thank you.

17 I was also on the Revitalization Task Force
18 Committee writing the general plan for eight and a half
19 years. So, I'm well aware and acquainted with the
20 issues facing South Pasadena and our community.

21 The proposed boundaries of our State Senate
22 district would take South Pasadena out of Senator Jack
23 Scott's district and shift the city to District 22, the
24 majority of which is in Los Angeles and a lot of South
25 Central Los Angeles.

00548

1 South Pasadena objects to severing the ties
2 with our neighboring communities of Pasadena, Altadena
3 and La Canada and the excellent representation that we
4 have had from our State Senator, Jack Scott.

5 Senator Jack Scott has worked closely with
6 residents on the issues of importance to our community.
7 And South Pasadena's removal from its partnership with
8 surrounding communities of interest and isolating it
9 with communities of competing interests would be just
10 disadvantageous for our community, but also could
11 ultimately weaken the Senate seat from our perspective.

12 South Pasadena has a shared historical founding
13 with Pasadena. They were incorporated in 1888. We were
14 incorporated in 18 -- actually, 1886. We were
15 incorporated in 1888. We have common developmental
16 patterns. We have common residential types, and mostly
17 residential versus what is predominantly manufacturing
18 and large-scale commercial development in the boundaries
19 of District 22. We have common revitalization efforts
20 and goals, and we've always looked to the north --
21 northern cities as models as well as other small
22 communities. In fact, professionals from our community
23 have helped our -- our foothill communities such as
24 Monrovia develop their own -- realize their
25 revitalization goals.

00549

1 We have the physical connection of the Arroyo
2 Seco and we've worked with Polanco's office on that who
3 represents us now. So geographically we are tied.
4 We've had historic transportation connections. We were
5 the historic route for Los Angeles to Pasadena and still
6 are by way of the Pasadena Freeway, the Arroyo Seco
7 Parkway, which is the first freeway west of the
8 Mississippi. It traverses our entire city, and we are
9 only 3.44 square miles.

10 With Scott's help and Adam Schiff's help, our
11 Congressman, we have succeeded in getting the Blue Line
12 under construction, which will be a commuter light rail
13 system from Los Angeles to Pasadena, and we are really
14 thankful for that, that effort on their behalf.

15 We have shared commercial affiliations with our
16 neighbors to the north. The chambers of commerce mix,
17 and we are part of the Arroyo Verdugo Economic Group
18 which includes Glendale and Burbank, and we are part of
19 the San Gabriel Council of Governments. It's the San
20 Gabriel Valley. It's not the South Central Los Angeles
21 district.

22 Educationally. Most of the graduates that we
23 have go to Pasadena City College and maybe Glendale
24 Community College, and we feel that the linkage that we
25 have with our northern neighbors is vital to us at this

00550

1 point, and that we would really appreciate your
2 considering redrawing those lines to respect the
3 positioning of South Pasadena and community linkage that
4 we have and the history that we have of common goals and
5 representation that we have enjoyed so far.

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
8 Ms. Knapp. We appreciate your coming down to testify,
9 as well -- or coming over to testify, from Pasadena over
10 to Valley College.

11 And I believe also from South Pasadena we have
12 Ms. Joyce Turney next.

13 MS. TURNEY: Yes. My name is Joyce Turney. I
14 am a retired attorney on an inactive status and a
15 40-year resident of South Pasadena, which I served 20
16 years as postmaster, and a lifelong Democratic activist
17 with the exception of those years as postmaster. Those
18 of you who are familiar with the concept, when I was
19 hatched.

20 I represent today the South Pasadena Democratic
21 Club as an officer of that organization as well as on my
22 own behalf as a resident of South Pasadena.

23 Many South Pasadena residents of both parties
24 have come to appreciate and rely on the ability,
25 integrity of Senator Jack Scott, who has served us with

00551

1 distinction both as an Assemblyman and State Senator and
2 who has represented us on vital issues of importance to
3 our community.

4 Speaker after speaker today has urged the
5 conference committee to pay attention to the first
6 principle of redistricting. That is maintaining
7 communities of interest. I join in that chorus.

8 South Pasadena's ties, as you have heard from
9 the previous speaker, have historically been to the
10 greater Pasadena/Altadena area. For example, we are in
11 the Pasadena City College district, which two of my
12 children attended before going on to state universities.
13 Our cultural, economic and organizational associations
14 are to the north. Our transportation patterns as you've
15 heard, the Arroyo Parkway and the Blue Line corridor,
16 and they're under construction, tie us to that community
17 of interest.

18 Curiously enough, if the proposed plan is
19 finally adopted, we will remain in the 44th Assembly
20 district which was well represented by Jack Scott and
21 Carol Liu, and in the 27th Congressional district
22 represented by Congressman Adam Schiff. With the
23 current limits -- term limits in effect, the only way
24 that we, the electorate, can take advantage of the
25 legislative experience of candidates gained by our

00552

1 office holders is to make it logical for them to run for
2 election to a Senate district seat with a similar
3 constituency as Jack Scott, for example, was able to do.
4 The same situation applies to the 27th Congressional
5 district where nearly coterminous boundaries could serve
6 both the electorate and candidates with a demonstrated
7 record of service to the voters.

8 We strongly urge the conference to consider
9 this anomaly and to leave the South Pasadena City in the
10 21st Congressional district as you did with the 44 AD
11 and the 27th CD.

12 Thank you.

13 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much for
14 taking the time to be with us, as well.

15 And by the way, I would just note for those who
16 have been sitting here watching us, I know it is getting
17 long. We started just after 9:00 this morning. So, it
18 is now after 4:00. We have been going for seven hours,
19 at least. And I would note that we have noticed -- I
20 left the room recently as Assemblymember Ashburn took
21 over the chair. I was passing on some notes to the
22 staff as we were going on this.

23 I want people to realize that as we are
24 talking, as you are giving testimony, right now there
25 are map makers trying to see how much they can

00553

1 accommodate of requests that are being made. Now, that
2 doesn't guarantee any particular change is being made,
3 but I just want folks to know not only are you being
4 listened to, there are people who are, right as we
5 speak, sitting and taking the various information we
6 have received yesterday and that we are receiving today
7 and trying to see how much of it that they can plug in.

8 So, you are definitely, even though you have to
9 wait a little bit sometimes for this, you're definitely
10 being listened to you. I can't guarantee the final
11 results. I can guarantee you that they are all being
12 passed on and studied.

13 And with that, I would like to introduce our
14 next speaker, who is Ms. Lori Dinkin from Valley
15 Village.

16 MS. DINKIN: Thank you for letting me speak.

17 In case any of you do not know where Valley
18 Village is located, we are -- we used to be part of
19 North Hollywood and the southern part. We're adjacent
20 to Studio City. We have been in existence since 1992.
21 We have our own specific plan. We located the -- the
22 area is located Freeway 101 to the south and Burbank
23 Boulevard to the north, the 170 Freeway to the east, and
24 to the west, Whitsett Boulevard following the Tujunga
25 Wash to Burbank Boulevard.

00554

1 Having said that, I want to let you know that
2 we are very upset especially with our Senate district.
3 It is a bone of contention for us.

4 How could you lump us in with the communities
5 of Glendale and Pasadena? The very communities that
6 have been fighting with us regarding the Burbank
7 Airport. For 20 years we have been fighting the
8 patterns of Burbank Airport, which have been impacting
9 especially the communities of Valley Village, Studio
10 City, part of North Hollywood and certainly part of
11 Sherman Oaks, as well. We have been asking to divert
12 some of the flights to the east, which will go over
13 Glendale and Pasadena -- I hope you get the
14 implications -- so that we get a relief from the
15 constant flights over our area.

16 We have been asking for curfews. We have been
17 asking for flights that have a different flight pattern,
18 so that we don't get the constant pollution and noise.
19 And Glendale and Pasadena -- Oh, yes, and curfew. And
20 Glendale and Pasadena have been successfully fighting
21 against us, and now we are supposed to be in the same
22 district? I don't think so.

23 Our communities have nothing remotely in common
24 with these communities in any shape or form. We must be
25 included in the southeast and part of the southwest

00555

1 communities of Studio City, Sherman Oaks, Toluca Lake
2 and North Hollywood.

3 I have talked with the presidents of said
4 homeowners associations, and they are all in accord.
5 Your plan is so insensitive to the communities and to
6 our needs that it defies description. Your plan has
7 violated our rights under the Federal Voting Rights Act.
8 The plan requires a public referendum and is in direct
9 conflict to the -- our neighborhood council's directions
10 that our city of LA is putting in action at this time.

11 The plan is based on census and like community
12 interests.

13 The Assembly and State Senate proposals are
14 subject to court challenges. The entire reapportionment
15 process from the federal level on down to the city
16 council should be made on census tracts and guidelines,
17 not squiggly lines that protect political interests.

18 We have learned our lesson in 1991 when our
19 district had been totally demolished and Joe Waggs woke
20 up one morning and found his district in squiggly lines
21 all over the place and had nothing in remote -- you
22 know, had nothing to do with the district he had before.
23 So, we have learned our lesson.

24 You are very insensitive to the needs of our
25 communities, and sadly our politicians are guided by

00556

1 their political needs and not the interests of the
2 communities.

3 Is it any wonder that there is such a low voter
4 turnout these days? People just feel there is no point
5 in it.

6 Please, politicians -- and I say "politicians"
7 because you're not statesmen -- listen to us. Listen to
8 our needs. Listen to what we need and what we are
9 interested in. You don't pay attention. You are
10 political people. Your political ambitions always take
11 precedence over what we, the constituents, need.

12 Thank you for listening.

13 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
14 Ms. Dinkin, for taking the time to give us your own
15 views. We appreciate that.

16 And I'm going to -- before I move to the next
17 person in LA Valley, there is an individual I had
18 asked -- whose name I called and who had stepped out of
19 the room earlier here in Sacramento. So, I'm just going
20 to interrupt one moment.

21 I believe, Mr. Kwoh, you are going to be next
22 in the Valley College site, but right before I take you,
23 I have I believe it is Ms. Jordan in Sacramento, and
24 then we'll go back to the site in the San Fernando
25 Valley. So if you can hold on there for just a moment.

00557

1 And, Ms. Jordan, please excuse me. I've
2 forgotten your first name.

3 MS. JORDAN: Susan.

4 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Ms. Susan Jordan. And
5 then we will be returning back to Valley College after
6 Ms. Jordan.

7 MS. JORDAN: Okay. Thank you, and thank you
8 for -- Is this on?

9 Thank you for allowing me to come back in. I
10 was here earlier and had some other meetings, but I
11 appreciate the opportunity to address you.

12 My name is Susan Jordan, and I represent League
13 for Coastal Protection and an organization called Vote
14 the Coast. That organization strives to bring coastal
15 issues to the forefront of electoral politics. I have
16 lived in California coastal communities for 14 years,
17 and I have learned firsthand how essential it is to have
18 a champion here in Sacramento who can convey the
19 concerns of the district to the members at large.

20 I recently moved from Manhattan Beach. I was
21 in Assemblyman Nakano's district, and I moved to
22 Santa Barbara where I based my nonprofit organization.
23 And I have watched the central coast from Ventura
24 through Santa Barbara up through San Luis Obispo
25 struggle with certain issues that are not common to

00558

1 other coastal communities along the coast.

2 The threat of offshore oil drilling is a huge
3 issue and one that we are currently litigating the
4 federal government over the extension of the 36 federal
5 offshore oil leases.

6 All of these coastal communities act together
7 in their common interests. So, it was with great shock
8 and almost utter disbelief to wake up and open the
9 newspaper and see the maps that have been drawn for that
10 Senate district. It is inexplicable to me that you
11 could literally take Jack O'Connell's Senate seat and
12 push it inland and then push us into an inland district,
13 Santa Barbara County, and then push the rest of his
14 district up north. It -- It defies logic.

15 And then when I learned -- when I came to
16 Sacramento and I learned that Fred -- well, actually,
17 it's McPherson's seat right now, had been similarly
18 gutted. And I do statewide coastal protection. What
19 that means to me is that I have no -- I have just lost
20 some of the strongest coastal voices that we relied upon
21 and that we have to absolutely have. Because those
22 concerns are not as -- as Assemblywoman Hannah-Beth
23 Jackson said earlier, the concerns of the inland
24 communities are equally as valid, but they are not the
25 same, and we need strong voices. I really -- I -- The

00559

1 people in Santa Barbara and the surrounding communities
2 in Ventura and in San Luis are in shock. They cannot
3 understand how this could happen to them.

4 So, we are literally begging you to rethink
5 this. I mean, we have been told, as Supervisor Naomi
6 Schwartz said, that this is basically a done deal and
7 this thing isn't going to get rewritten. We are hearing
8 all kinds of rumors, but we have to really believe that
9 the process is still open and we have to really beg you
10 to rethink this.

11 The coast -- We are facing tremendous coastal
12 issues here. We have nonpoint source pollution which
13 deals with entire watersheds. We have this active
14 litigation against the federal government. We need
15 strong voices. We need the communities of interest to
16 be joined in a district, and we would really ask you to
17 restore the 18th.

18 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
19 Ms. Jordan.

20 And just for the benefit of all of our audience
21 folks out in the local areas as well as here, I just --
22 I realize that those who have been here for both days of
23 hearings already realized this, but sometimes we tend to
24 assume everybody knows information that in fact is not
25 shared with everyone. So, let me just spell it out to

00560

1 make sure it is clear.

2 We have lines that are proposed right now that
3 have been drawn, some by the Assembly and some by the
4 Senate, for those kinds of districts. Those lines are
5 being -- were put out as a draft plan for consideration
6 last week. The hearings -- after some 15 days of
7 testimony before that. These hearings today are to get
8 reactions and changes which will, I know, produce some
9 changes. I can't guarantee what the changes will be,
10 and I can't guarantee how extensive they will be. I do
11 know for certain there will be changes. And I know that
12 there are basically six people on the conference
13 committee who will be making those decisions, and we
14 will all find out soon, because the conference committee
15 will start meeting tomorrow -- I believe tomorrow. They
16 can begin as early as tomorrow, after we have concluded
17 these hearings. And so everything that we are getting
18 today in the way of input from people in every community
19 that's on line here is being transcribed and given to
20 all six of those folks as well as the staff working on
21 it to see what --

22 MS. JORDAN: That is a lot of reading.

23 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: -- what they can
24 incorporate. We very much appreciate everybody taking
25 time to come out here and give us this information.

00561

1 MS. JORDAN: Thank you.

2 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: We are now going to
3 return back to Valley College in Los Angeles, in San
4 Fernando Valley, and to Mr. Stewart Kwoh. Excuse the
5 interruption, sir. And at this time you have the
6 microphone.

7 MR. KWOH: Thank you very much and good
8 afternoon.

9 My name is Stewart Kwoh. I'm the executive
10 director of the Asian Pacific American Legal Center of
11 Southern California. Thank you very much for convening
12 these hearings. You've heard a lot of lively responses,
13 and hopefully you will continue with your commitment to
14 be responsive, as well.

15 At the outset, I do want to commend the
16 Assembly Committee on Elections and Reapportionment
17 chaired by you, Assemblyman Longville, as well as the
18 Senate Election Committee chaired by Senator Perata. We
19 thank you for your efforts in setting up these regional
20 hearings throughout the state to take in community and
21 civil rights organizational input and to endeavor to
22 draw redistricting lines and maps that would balance the
23 many population, community, minority, political,
24 partisan, and other redistricting factors that are part
25 of the body of law that govern redistricting rules.

1 We know that this is a tremendous endeavor and
2 we can see the Assembly has heard our communities'
3 concerns in many areas, including the configuration of
4 the 45th, 46th and 49th Assembly districts.

5 Some 10 years ago, the Asian Pacific American
6 Legal Center involved itself in the redistricting
7 process by organizing our communities in Los Angeles.
8 We were able to make some gains and make some impact on
9 the 1991 redistricting plan. We worked in coalition
10 with many Latino leaders, particularly in the 49th
11 district, Assembly district, to include four cities in
12 which there was a large and growing Asian Pacific
13 American community. We also successfully argued before
14 the California Supreme Court that the 53rd Assembly
15 district should be changed to reunite the City of
16 Torrance, a city with a large Japanese-American
17 population that had a long history of voting cohesively
18 and regularly.

19 In both instances, there was recognition that
20 areas of dramatic Asian Pacific American population
21 growth should be respected in the redistricting process
22 and their potential voting strength not diluted, but
23 fully realized.

24 In this 2001 redistricting process, we have
25 made a painstaking effort to build a statewide coalition

00563

1 to represent our Asian Pacific American communities and
2 the neighborhoods in which they reside. We also
3 invested much time and resources to not only educate our
4 communities about the legal underpinnings of
5 redistricting, but also to listen to their local input
6 about how their communities and neighborhoods are
7 defined and how they want to be represented.

8 The Asian Pacific American Legal Center did
9 extensive demographic research and analysis around the
10 communities of interest raised by the Committee of Asian
11 Pacific Mexicans for Fair Redistricting Regional
12 Partners, of which there were at least nine. It was
13 this input, coupled with our research, that provided the
14 substance of our testimony at six of the eight Assembly
15 regional hearings on redistricting.

16 It was also critical for us to have dialogue
17 and collaboration with our counterpart civil rights
18 organizations such as the Mexican American Legal Defense
19 and Educational Fund, NAACP Legal Defense Fund, NAACP,
20 the Southwest Voter Registration Education Project, the
21 American Jewish Committee and many other community
22 organizations.

23 The 49th Assembly district represents just such
24 a balance of interest. You have drawn a district that
25 will fairly represent both the Asian and the Latino

1 communities, as well as the West San Gabriel Valley
2 region as a whole. Latinos will still represent 42
3 percent of the 49th population, while Asian Pacific
4 Americans will be 41 percent. The Latino voter
5 registration is at 32.5 percent, as is the Asian Pacific
6 American registration would be at 28 percent.

7 The Asian Pacific American population, it
8 should be noted that in the 49th Assembly district in
9 the last 10 years has grown over 27 percent. More than
10 any other racial or ethnic group, which have pretty much
11 not increased significantly.

12 The district also has many shared demographics
13 and communities of interest, including a relatively high
14 senior citizen population, shared transportation issues,
15 educational investment issues and land use habits.
16 Under the totality of circumstances, it balances the
17 many redistricting criteria, including compactness, one
18 person, one vote, minority representation and
19 communities of interest considerations.

20 We commend the Assembly on this fair proposal
21 for the 49th Assembly district and urge the Assembly not
22 to dilute our community's representation here.

23 We recognize that the Latino community has also
24 experienced tremendous population growth in Los Angeles.
25 There are many opportunities to enhance the Latino voter

00565

1 strength, which we definitely support. One example is
2 in the 56th Assembly district. The Asian Pacific
3 American Legal Center and the Coalition of Asian Pacific
4 Americans for Fair Redistricting support efforts to
5 reconfigure the 56th district into a Section 2 Latino
6 voting rights district. There is tremendous growth in
7 that area for Latinos and that needs to be recognized.

8 Like MALDEF and the African-American
9 Redistricting Committee, we are committed to building
10 districts that represent Asian Pacific Americans,
11 Latinos, African-Americans' communities fairly. We
12 recognize other communities of interest as well, and we
13 believe this can be done without sacrificing the voice
14 of another.

15 The 49th Assembly district is special for Asian
16 Pacific Americans and that community in that we have the
17 unique opportunity, perhaps in no other place in
18 Southern California, to build a strong influence
19 district there.

20 While we are 13 percent of the state's
21 population, Asian Pacific Americans, our representation
22 in the State Assembly is far from our full potential.
23 As you know, out of 120 State Legislators, there are
24 only four Asian Pacific Americans in the state of
25 California, even though the population is 13 percent.

00566

1 The Assembly's configuration of the 49th as
2 well as the 22nd, 45th and 46th will go a long way to
3 ensuring a voice for these important voters.

4 Thank you very much.

5 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
6 Mr. Kwoh. We appreciate again you taking the time to
7 come before us.

8 And next we are going to be at the same
9 location hearing from Mr. Pedro Nava who represents, I
10 believe, the Santa Barbara Hispanic Chamber. Is that
11 correct?

12 MR. NAVA: That's correct, Assemblymember,
13 Chairman Longville.

14 Good afternoon. I want to recognize -- Thank
15 you for taking the time to listen to us. I also want to
16 give a special thanks to the staff of Assemblyspeaker
17 Hertzberg, who has been very courteous and instrumental
18 in setting up the arrangements so that we can
19 communicate with you up there.

20 I'm president of the Santa Barbara Hispanic
21 Chamber of Commerce. In addition to that, I am newly
22 appointed member of the Judicial Nominee Evaluation
23 Commission, and I am a third-term member of California
24 Coastal Commission. And I want to address in particular
25 my concerns with respect to the 19th Senate district.

00567

1 Das Williams spoke earlier, and I think he gave
2 a wonderful overview with respect to the nuances and
3 issues that affect all of us in Santa Barbara, Ventura
4 and the Oxnard area, but specifically as to the 19th
5 Senate district.

6 Now, I have watched the Latino investment grow
7 in these communities. I have seen Latinos reach out to
8 others in the community and embrace opportunities, and I
9 felt pride in all of our accomplishments, all of the
10 accomplishments that are the result of joining hands and
11 joining forces and focusing in on those things that we
12 share. For example, support for labor, support for the
13 environment, support for working families, concern with
14 public health. All of those things addressed because of
15 a community of interest.

16 But I have to tell you, the Chair, that I
17 tremble when I think about the progress that will be
18 lost if the 19th Senate district remains as it is
19 presently configured. Because by splitting our
20 communities, you have in essence created what I call a
21 Franken district. And if we take into consideration the
22 Franken district and the consequences of it to our
23 communities, it is indeed frightening.

24 I take a look at the members of this Elections,
25 Reapportionment and Constitutional Amendments Committee

00568

1 and I wonder whether Assemblymember Tony Cardenas and
2 Dennis Cardoza and Marco Firebaugh, Christine Kehoe,
3 George Nakano, Jerry -- Jenny Oropeza, Kevin Shelley and
4 Juan Vargas, knowing what I know about the values that
5 they hold dear and their commitments to their
6 communities who want to be represented by Senator
7 McClintock, I think not. I cannot speak for them. But
8 knowing what I know of them, I think not.

9 I think that Santa Barbara, Ventura and Oxnard
10 are linked by the coast. They are linked by commerce.
11 They are linked by a respect for the spirit and
12 cooperation. The voters of Santa Barbara and Ventura
13 and Oxnard are joined by a love of the environment, by
14 respect, again, for working families, and in particular
15 a sensitivity to diversity. And I will tell you that
16 putting us together with Senator McClintock is akin to
17 having an organizer of the Million Moms March getting
18 married to Charleston Heston. It won't work.

19 As a coastal commissioner, I know that
20 Santa Barbara, Ventura and Oxnard have benefited from
21 strong support by our elected officials for
22 environmental protection. This new Senate district
23 makes the progress that we have made at risk.

24 Santa Barbara, Ventura and Oxnard have earned
25 the right to vigorous representation, representation

00569

1 that protects us, representation that promotes public
2 health, and representation that will fight for coastal
3 values. Historically, we've been able to obtain that.
4 With this map, we will lose it.

5 This Senate district plan guarantees that Santa
6 Barbara, Ventura and Oxnard are no longer in the main
7 house, but Santa Barbara, Ventura and Oxnard are in the
8 outhouse.

9 Thank you.

10 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
11 sir. Thank you very much, Mr. Nava. And while I'm
12 trying real hard to avoid being in a situation where I
13 am passing judgments or anything like that on lines,
14 particularly on lines which were drawn by the other
15 house, at the same time I must compliment you on some
16 wonderful phrasing and coming up with some terminology.

17 I have not heard the term "Franken district,"
18 and I think it beats "gerrymander" by a long shot. It's
19 probably going to be used by other people, would be my
20 guess. So, your phrasing, your very effective wording
21 was appreciated.

22 I'm -- We are going to be moving next from that
23 location over back to San Bernardino for some additional
24 witnesses. So, I believe we should have queued up a
25 good friend from the Riverside Community College Board

00570

1 of Trustees, Mr. Jose Medina.

2 And, Jose, if you are there -- Jose, can I see
3 you?

4 MR. MEDINA: I'm here.

5 Chairman Longville and members of the
6 committee, --

7 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Go ahead, Jose.

8 MR. MEDINA: -- thank you for giving me the
9 opportunity to speak.

10 I am also, as Chairman Longville remembers, the
11 past candidate -- Democratic candidate in the 64th
12 Assembly district. I remember talking about tyranny of
13 the majority. I see the proposed lines, especially as
14 they affect Riverside, as an example of the tyranny of
15 the incumbents. While it is understandable that
16 Republicans and Democrats in the Legislature want to
17 maximize the number of seats that they hold and at the
18 same time protect the incumbents by making sure that
19 their seats are safe, the end results, especially as it
20 affects Riverside, I think is less democracy for the
21 citizens.

22 At a time when the voters of California are
23 having a difficulty seeing the real differences between
24 the Republican and Democratic parties, the proposed
25 redistricting lines for what used to be the 64th

00571

1 Assembly district guarantees that there will be less not
2 more political debate. This may be well and good for
3 our representatives holding elective office in
4 Sacramento, but does it benefit the citizens who they
5 are elected to represent?

6 I for one think not.

7 Democracy works best, said de Tocqueville, when
8 there is independence of mind and real freedom of
9 discussion.

10 The proposed Assembly lines further dilute the
11 voting strength of Democrats in the Riverside area. The
12 proposed lines will, for all intents and purposes,
13 guarantee that Republicans will continue to represent
14 Riverside and Sacramento for the next 10 years. By
15 further weakening the position of Democrats in the area,
16 we will see less discussion of political issues at
17 election time and thus a further erosion of our
18 democracy.

19 Democracy cannot survive without controversy,
20 and by drawing districts that are so noncompetitive that
21 they have in fact eliminated the possibility of
22 controversy, we see less democracy.

23 We have seen a gradual decline of the number of
24 people who go out to vote on election day. I fear that
25 by furthering the dominance of the Republican party over

00572

1 the Democratic party in the Riverside area, we will see
2 a continuing decline in voter participation in the
3 future.

4 I ask the committee to reconsider their
5 proposed redistricting lines and strengthen our
6 democracy by giving the citizens of the Riverside area
7 an Assembly seat that is more, not less competitive.

8 And I also would like to add that by dividing
9 the City of Riverside, I think we again dilute
10 representation of the citizens in Sacramento by dividing
11 the City of Riverside in half.

12 And I thank you for giving me the opportunity.

13 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
14 We appreciate you taking the time to come and speak.

15 And I believe next we'll have speaking from the
16 Desert Leadership Forum, Ms. Cynthia Davis.

17 MS. DAVIS: Thank you, Chairman Longville, and
18 thank you for the committee.

19 I'm the treasurer of the Desert Leadership
20 Forum. I have had my own business for 15 years. I own
21 my own home in Cathedral City for 15 years. I have
22 strong roots in the desert.

23 I realize what a difficult task it is and that
24 you can't please everybody. I do want to commend you
25 for your efforts. And I also want to say with the

00573

1 results of the new Assembly districts, we're very, very
2 pleased with the results and want to thank you very,
3 very much. And in order to keep the communities of
4 interest together, we would like you to adopt the MALDEF
5 plan rather than the plan that is being presented right
6 now for the Congressional district. We're not exactly
7 too thrilled with it.

8 We do like the MALDEF plan. We feel that it
9 will serve our interest, that it is the best plan that
10 we can have for the Coachella Valley and for Imperial
11 County, and it keeps the -- our commonalties of interest
12 together. Historically, we have been together. We want
13 to continue keeping together. And so if you can adopt
14 the MALDEF plan, that will keep our commonality of
15 interest together instead of splitting us up.

16 I want to thank you very much for your time.

17 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
18 Ms. Davis, and especially considering that you had to
19 come from a little ways out.

20 And now we will actually -- another one who has
21 had to drive a little bit, from Desert Hot Springs,
22 Mr. Gary Bosworth.

23 MR. BOSWORTH: Yes. Councilmember Gary
24 Bosworth from down in Hot Springs.

25 I want to thank you, Chairman and the

00574

1 committee, for your hard work that you've done. You
2 have worked very hard for many months with your hearings
3 and everything and talking to people, and I want to
4 especially congratulate the excellent work you've done
5 in the low desert as reports to the Assembly district
6 committees.

7 I do believe that the lines that are proposed
8 for the 80 and 64th Assembly districts are very good as
9 far as representing the communities of interest
10 throughout the Imperial County and the Coachella Valley,
11 and following the recommendations of MALDEF I think
12 there was excellent.

13 I do -- would like to also mention that as far
14 as the Congressional plan, I had hoped that you would
15 also -- I mean that Sacramento would also follow the
16 MALDEF plan for Congressional plan. The reason for that
17 is for many reasons. You have the Napa Highway, Highway
18 86 going up to I-10, which is a very important
19 transportation corridor for international commerce. I
20 happen to think that keeping that NAFTA corridor in a
21 single Congressional district at the federal level is
22 very important.

23 By doing that in the state level legislative
24 district I think has been good, but I think that needs
25 to be done also on the federal level, because we have

00575

1 federal issues that involve -- with the transportation
2 of goods up those highways that I think having that
3 corridor in one district would be preferable.

4 Also for the same reasons, we have several
5 Indian tribes that have reservations along that same
6 NAFTA corridor, for the simple reason that that corridor
7 has been a trade route since before the Europeans ever
8 were in the United States or what later became the
9 United States. We have the (inaudible), the St.
10 Augustine Band, Twentynine Palms, Torres, Martinez. In
11 fact, Martinez even goes underneath the Salton Sea. The
12 Collection Band along Colorado River. I mean, you have
13 got all these different bands.

14 And while it's been good that we've coalesced
15 all these tribes into one district on the state level,
16 Native American sovereignty is also a federal issue.
17 It's a -- So I think it is also very important that we
18 have the ability to have a Congressional district where
19 these interests are consolidated into one, so they can
20 be heard adequately at the federal level, not just at
21 the state level.

22 And then thirdly, we have the Salton Sea. The
23 Salton Sea crosses the boundary of Riverside and
24 Imperial County. I think because of the tremendous
25 efforts it will take to look at the Salton Sea and the

00576

1 long-term solutions as to what to do with cleanup and
2 stuff like that, it's very preferable to have the
3 Salton Sea in one Congressional district instead of
4 being split into two Congressional districts.

5 So between all these different things, I think
6 it would behoove Sacramento to look at the possibility
7 of following the MALDEF plan on the Congressional
8 district in the low desert just like they've done with
9 the Assembly district.

10 Again, I would like to congratulate the hard
11 work that you, Chairman Longville, have done and
12 everything has been, you know, working, and I'm sure
13 that these hearings will produce what's best for
14 everybody.

15 Thank you.

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 --oOo--

2 (The following pages were reported by
3 Wendy E. Arlen, CSR.)

4 --oOo--

5 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
6 Councilmember Bosworth. I wish I could be as optimistic
7 as you are. I'm hoping we'll do as well as we can. I'm
8 just not quite as confident as that, but I'm hoping
9 we'll do a little better.

10 Then we next have also speaking from the San
11 Bernardino location Mr. Lewis Vandenberg.

12 MR. VANDENBERG: Thank you, Chairman Longville.
13 Thank you for this opportunity. I honor your service,
14 though I must here criticize it.

15 I am Lewis Vandenberg, a long-term resident
16 City of Riverside. I'm the interim director for the
17 national organization democrats.com and I'm a
18 prospective Democratic candidate for the 43rd
19 Congressional District, U. S. Congress.

20 This proposal disenfranchises the people of the
21 City of Riverside. We need representation that is of,
22 by, and for the city regardless of political
23 affiliation. By splitting Riverside's Assembly
24 representation along the lines proposed, we will have
25 representatives who do not know the issues of our city

1 and who well may simply be occasional visitors rather
2 than residents.

3 District lines, as you well know, are supposed
4 to be drawn to support communities of interest.
5 Riverside is a distinct community with its own
6 character, its own culture, its own needs and interests.
7 More than that, it is the defining city, the preeminent
8 city of the Inland Empire. To divide it in the manner
9 the legislature has done demeans our citizenry. These
10 lines are illogical and nonresponsive to the needs of
11 this community.

12 I and others suspect that an arrangement may
13 well have been struck with Republicans at the statewide
14 level to provide safe seats for incumbents and to give
15 the Inland Empire to Republicans as a dominion for at
16 least the next 10 years.

17 We understand that politics is about making
18 deals and compromising, but some things should be beyond
19 deal making and expediency. One of those things is the
20 provision of honest and authentic representation for a
21 given area. That is a principle that has no pardon, a
22 principle which should be inviolable and fundamental to
23 American democracy.

24 We are now facing a situation where the biggest
25 and most significant city in this region would have its

1 Assembly representation split between two individuals
2 based many miles from it. There is no more egregious
3 situation anywhere else in the State of California. In
4 no other instance do new Assembly district lines
5 fracture community interest as brazenly as they do here
6 in Riverside. That's bad government, bad policy, bad
7 democracy, and bad faith with the citizens of Riverside
8 and its surrounding areas.

9 With specificity to the 43rd Congressional
10 District, looking at the proposed 43rd district lines
11 objectively, it's clear that they simply don't make
12 common sense. A channel shooting out from Riverside,
13 bisecting Orange County and hitting the ocean is a
14 ridiculous and extreme example of gerrymandering or, may
15 I say, "Frankendistricting."

16 I want to join my voice with that of Dick
17 Gebhart quoted in the "New York Times" August 31st, the
18 "Press Enterprise" in an editorial titled "Splitsville,
19 California," August 30th, the "Los Angeles Times" in a
20 commentary authored by Tony Quinn entitled "Democratic
21 plan may backfire," September 2nd, and the many others
22 who have been disappointed by or have criticized this
23 plan.

24 Bob Hertzberg is quoted in the "LA Times" on
25 August 30 as saying that many requirements had to be

1 incorporated in fashioning the plan: the need to avoid
2 splitting cities, respecting communities of interest and
3 prohibiting gerrymanders that grotesquely tailor a
4 district's configuration. With respect, the Speaker
5 seems to be saying one thing while doing another. One
6 need only look at the inland district map to see that
7 fact plainly.

8 A Republican political consultant, Wayne
9 Johnson, quoted on the California plan in the "New York
10 Times" on August 31st said, quote: "The whole idea of
11 elections is you're supposed to have a real choice and
12 real competition, but this map just favors incumbents so
13 much."

14 Democrats of Riverside deserve to be taken
15 seriously. We're fielding serious and viable
16 candidates. The issues we raise are serious, education,
17 land use, environmental, economic, transportation, all
18 vital areas of concern for this community.

19 Good government comes from a genuine
20 consideration of differing points of view, not the
21 unilateral domination of one party and one point of view
22 over another. What we seek is a reconsideration of
23 these lines and their being redrawn to reflect in a
24 reasonable and responsible way the real needs of this
25 community.

1 To provide a more level playing field between
2 the parties, there are alternative plans out there, such
3 as MALDEF's which I support. The bottom line is that
4 Riverside deserves better. This plan is broken. I ask
5 that you fix it. I am confident that you will do the
6 right thing.

7 Thank you very much.

8 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
9 Mr. Vandenberg for coming in. We will next move back to
10 the LA Harbor area, I believe, and I believe we next
11 have Mr. Robert Gelfand, and please excuse me if I'm
12 mispronouncing your name, sir. If you're there, go
13 ahead and speak up.

14 MR. GELFAND: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman
15 and the committee.

16 I guess I don't have a written speech to read
17 into the record like the other people I've been
18 listening to. I come to you as a man with a past, which
19 is to say I used to be involved with the California
20 Democratic party. I was for the better part of a decade
21 a member of the executive board of the California
22 Democratic party and served for about six years as the
23 vice chair for the environmental caucus. And then in
24 the late '90's I simply went over to the post office and
25 quietly re-registered as an independent.

1 I don't make a big deal with that. I don't
2 tell a lot of people, but you're entitled to know at

3 this time that this is the sort of conduct that induced
4 me to make that change in my life. And I want to speak
5 specifically as a resident of the community of San
6 Pedro, which is directly adjacent to the Port of Los
7 Angeles.

8 The community of San Pedro lies along a
9 hillside. It looks a little bit like the port of Naples
10 in Italy or Genoa perhaps or San Francisco. There's a
11 hillside, a community and it runs down to the wharf.
12 And what has been going on for the past year or more is
13 a very intense conversation between the community and
14 the port as to how the port and the community shall
15 interact. Probably over a million dollars has been
16 spent by the port just on public outreach. So what has
17 the Democratic party in Sacramento done?

18 Well, they've put the community in San Pedro --
19 I'm looking at a map that has Senate District 25. It's
20 a little hard to read, but 25 seems to be the right
21 number -- and it takes the Palos Verdes Peninsula, a
22 conservative Republican area, and it separates it from
23 San Pedro, but what does it do? It separates San Pedro
24 from the Port of Los Angeles. Now, the port of LA and
25 San Pedro have been more or less synonymous for over a

1 hundred years, along with Wilmington, Harbor City,
2 Harbor Gateway and so on.

3 In the Senate District you've drawn a narrow
4 corridor that connects Palos Verdes Estates, the Palos
5 Verdes peninsula on the coast somehow wraps around in
6 what you have referred to or somebody has referred to as
7 the ladle and connects it up with Compton, Willowbrook,
8 Westmont, Inglewood, Hawthorne, and so on, a rather
9 remarkable result.

10 I don't think it's a ladle. I invite
11 historians and political scientists to take this
12 particular Senate District 25 and hold it up next to a
13 textbook which shows in fact the original district that
14 was named the gerrymander because as I recall Governor
15 Jerry created a district that looked like a salamander
16 and they said not a salamander, it's a gerrymander.

17 What I see is fire storm of protest developing
18 in the Harbor area, and what's interesting to me is it
19 is, at least from the perspective that I see, it's a
20 liberal Democratic fire storm. When the newly elected
21 city councilperson, Janice Hahn, says this is terrible,
22 when the assemblyman, at least from what I can tell
23 talking to their offices says this is not good, when the
24 State Senator from the area says this is not good,
25 somebody wasn't listening.

1 I think we all understand what the issue was.
2 It was to get Steve Horn. It was to get that
3 Congressional seat back, and in order to do that, you
4 basically had to abolish his district. Well, you won.
5 Steve Horn announced, and it's in the paper today, that
6 he is retiring. So you got your bucket of blood. Steve
7 Horn is out. Now, you ought to take these maps back,
8 tear them up and redraw them in a way that it's
9 defensible.

10 I sincerely hope that there will be lawsuits
11 filed to contest this plan if it goes through. I would
12 certainly support it. I would, you know, like to join
13 the plaintiff class which seems to be growing longer by
14 the minute.

15 Lots of issues. The Congressional District
16 really is an abomination. I have the Congressional
17 District map, and what have they done? They've handed
18 control of the Port of Los Angeles to Dana Rohrbacher,
19 the Orange County Republican. It's remarkable.

20 Port of Los Angeles, I have a feel for. I
21 understand that the people down in Long Beach are
22 equally irritated because Long Beach is separated from
23 its port in terms of the Congressional District. San
24 Pedro is separated from its port by virtue of the
25 Congressional District. San Pedro is separated from its

1 port by virtue of the Senate District.

2 The Assembly District I won't speak on. I'm
3 not sure what's wrong with it. It might actually be
4 okay.

5 So I just want to conclude by saying that this
6 is a perfect example of why people are disillusioned
7 with politics. It's an expression of utter contempt on
8 the part of the Senate committee that drew up this map
9 for the citizens and the people who live here.

10 Thank you very much.

11 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
12 Mr. Gelfand.

13 We're now moving, I believe, back to Sacramento
14 and let me just double-check before I say that for sure
15 to make sure whether the individuals are here that had
16 indicated they were going to testify in Sacramento. I
17 have Mr. Dan Jacobson that was with California Public
18 Interest Research Group. Okay. Mr. Jacobson is not
19 here.

20 Mr. David L. Claminis from the Black American
21 Political Association of California. Okay. Mr. Pete
22 Price from the California League of Conservation Voters.
23 Is he present? All right.

24 Then we go back to the LA north location and we
25 have at that location Mr. Steve Cummings from the

1 Ventura Democratic Club. Mr. Cummings are you there?

2 MR. CUMMINGS: Yes, I am.

3 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Okay. You're now live
4 and you have the microphone.

5 MR. CUMMINGS: Okay. Thank you very much,
6 Mr. Chairman, for allowing to us participate today.

7 My name is Steve Cummings and one of the
8 members of the Ventura County Regional Redistricting
9 Task Force and Das Williams and Pedro Nava were very
10 eloquent earlier about our concerns about the 19th
11 Senate District which I certainly concur with. It's
12 disaster for the valley and for the coastal communities
13 of Ventura and Santa Barbara counties and it abandons
14 their interests and the work they've done in that area
15 for 20 years.

16 However, I'm going to spend most of my time
17 talking about two other issues which the task force has
18 worked on. The first one is the 22nd and 23rd
19 Congressional District and the splitting the City of San
20 Buena Ventura popularly known as Ventura.

21 We looked at this, and, of course, we are
22 concerned about in terms of community of interest any
23 city being split. We analyzed whether it could be
24 included either in 22nd district or the 23rd district.
25 If you try and put it in the 23rd district, you cut the

1 22nd in half. So that's not a viable option.

2 I brought a proposal today for including the
3 City of Ventura entirely into the 22nd district. It's
4 actually a relatively easy transaction. You can swap
5 the remainder of Ventura which is now in the 23rd back
6 into the 22nd by moving the City of Santa Maria out of
7 the 22nd and into the 23rd and then there is few other
8 minor areas, remnants of Santa Barbara County, Toro
9 Canyon and some other areas which will balance that off.

10 Avoiding splitting the city is an important
11 principle in this whole process. The City of Ventura
12 doesn't have to be split, it should not be split, and we
13 hope you will consider our proposal which we will be
14 sending to you later today.

15 The other issue I have is the 35th Assembly
16 District and trying to return Ojai and Santa Paula back
17 into the district. Under the new proposal, they have
18 been moved out of the district into the 37th. Ojai,
19 Santa Paula and Ventura have long historical ties going
20 over 100 years and also Ojai has very close ties with
21 Santa Barbara. Ventura and Ojai have a lot of
22 communities of interest in terms of shopping and school
23 districts.

24 We have put together a plan for swapping
25 populations between the 35th and 37th and 41st which we

1 think will satisfy all parties and we'll also present
2 that today and we hope you will take that into
3 consideration.

4 The final thing I will say I have worked for a
5 number of years in Ventura County in economic issues,
6 and one of the key things that many of the members on
7 the committee today probably don't know about Ventura
8 County and that is the great geographical split between
9 east and west or north and south, depending on how you
10 look at a map. At the Canejo Grade you have, east of
11 that you have Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks, which
12 traditionally have oriented themselves towards LA
13 County. The spillover of LA County has come into that
14 area. To the west of that is the historical area of the
15 county, Ventura, Oxnard, Santa Paula, Ojai, those
16 cities. They have traditionally looked up the coast to
17 Santa Barbara. Santa Barbara-Ventura go back over 200
18 years.

19 I think that's an important principle when
20 you're looking at these maps again in developing your
21 issues regarding the 19th Senate District where you've
22 got the Assembly District, the other Assembly districts,
23 and, of course, I hope that you also consider our plan
24 for reuniting Ventura into the 22nd Congressional
25 District. Thank you very much.

1 (Applause.)

2 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
3 Mr. Cummings, appreciate your time as well.

4 Next from the same location I believe we have
5 some -- Eric Albert.

6 MR. ALBERT: Thank you everyone. Thank you, my
7 fellow California constituents, thank you, Chairman John
8 Longville, Vice Chair Roy Ashburn and the committee
9 members and Senator Don Perata, for your time today.
10 This shows that globally people in California do care
11 about the process, both in the leadership and the
12 constituent standpoint.

13 I'd like to make some brief statements about
14 the 24th Congressional District today, but I'll also
15 briefly stand in alliance with interesting politicians
16 from Janice Hahn from the LA city who wants to unisolate
17 their port and harbor district, and as well as Asian
18 Pacific and Latino professionals across California who
19 want to share in cultural diversity throughout
20 California today.

21 Again, I'm Eric Albert, a resident of east
22 Ventura County. I am the chair of the statewide
23 Democratic Party's Business and Professional Caucus. We
24 do share industrial interests with members of many
25 minorities in California.

1 I live along the 101 highway Canejo-Calabasas
2 corridor as I like to identify it. Thus, I'm concerned
3 about unifying this corridor, just as the other sectors
4 of the state even as far as Del Norte want to be unified
5 and not isolated.

6 I'm support my fellow remarks from
7 professionals, the Asian Pacific professionals today and
8 certainly as I've stated, I also wish Del Norte County
9 the best with its isolation similar to ours on the
10 LA-Ventura County borderline.

11 As a pragmatic citizen, I know that my comments
12 at best only represent a fraction of Californians, but
13 unlike Mayor Leslie Devine, I want to do something to
14 help the former Congressional District. I respectfully
15 request that Elections, Reapportionment and
16 Constitutional Amendments Committee leaders regroup of
17 incumbents of the new 24th, 26th, 28th, and 29th
18 Congressional districts as proposed.

19 Certainly this is going to help the Asian
20 professionals in the San Gabriel area. They are going
21 to see that there are some common interests that we
22 share. If we just ran a little bit of an easement or
23 right-of-way or something and share, give and take
24 little pieces from each of those districts going east,
25 we might be able to allow, in the hope of supporting

1 those eastern area Asian Pacific San Gabriel Valley
2 interests and our own Canejo-Calabasas corridor, I would
3 request and ask your help in this right-of-way along the
4 101 highway of the 24th Congressional District so that
5 it might retain at least eastern Thousand Oaks, Oak
6 Park, Agoura Hills.

7 My fellow industrialists and I, all the
8 different businesses in that corridor, my fellow
9 residents and I who agree with my views prefer a united
10 Canejo-Calabasas corridor.

11 Again, I thank you for your time. A little
12 later on today Sharon Hilbrant, a fellow resident and
13 caucus member, will talk about the special interests of
14 a gigantic faction of women in California, especially
15 coastal office holders, and I hope to support those
16 stands as well. Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
19 Mr. Albert. We appreciate it.

20 And I believe Ms. Lyn Shaw, chair of the
21 Women's Caucus of the California Democratic Party is
22 coming up next. Ms. Shaw, let me just alert folks that
23 Assemblymember Bill Campbell is going to take over
24 chairing for a few minutes so I can take a break and we
25 will continue under the chairmanship of Assemblymember

1 Bill Campbell, and please go ahead and proceed.

2 MS. SHAW: Thank you very much. I'm Lyn Shaw
3 from Hilton House, and I am chair of the women's caucus
4 of the California Democratic Party. I appreciate this
5 opportunity to come before you today to express the
6 comments of the women's caucus of the state party, and I
7 also thank you for giving me a chance to come home to my
8 alma mater. I graduated from Valley College and I'm
9 proud of this campus in the district.

10 The members of the women's caucus have
11 expressed great concern about these redistricting plans
12 and their effect on advancing women into the State
13 Senate. While it is important to protect the Democrat
14 incumbents, we must look further. Incumbent protection
15 is probably not the best genesis of voting reform.

16 As women we cannot expect to have districts
17 drawn distinctly for women to get elected from as do
18 other communities of interest. It is imperative to
19 preserve the experience of our women Assemblymembers by
20 designing Senate seats that will be friendly to women.

21 Our current women Senators have come from the
22 Assembly. We ask women to take time away from their
23 careers and away from their families to run for office
24 as we do in the workforce and traditionally women at the
25 end of their careers do not make the same amount of

1 money that men do. I'm afraid if we don't encourage
2 women to move on in elective office that we will lose
3 them from the process.

4 While keeping a Democratic majority does a much
5 better job of advancing women's issues, we do urge you
6 to work with the women's legislative caucus to enable
7 women to advance elective office. We encourage your
8 respect of Democratic women by promoting Senate
9 districts that will be friendly to the advancement of
10 women.

11 Thank you very much.

12 (Applause.)

13 ASSEMBLYMEMBER CAMPBELL: Miss Shaw, thank you
14 very much. I would just make a parenthetical remark
15 that I certainly have a very high regard for the women
16 colleagues that I serve with here in the Assembly, and
17 we are pleased with your comments.

18 I believe our next speaker is Joe Lauritzen.
19 Joe, would you give us your insights?

20 MR. LAURITZEN: Chairman Campbell, actually my
21 name is Jon Lauritzen. I'm the chair of the 38th
22 Assembly District. So your mapmakers can locate where
23 we are, I'm from Chatsworth in the north San Fernando
24 Valley.

25 MR. CAMPBELL: I better get my contact lens

1 fixed. So I apologize for that.

2 MR. LAURITZEN: Thank you. Currently I reside
3 in the 38th Assembly District, the 19th Senate District
4 and the 25th Congressional District. Each of those
5 districts shares a large portion of the north San
6 Fernando Valley. This is acceptable to us, even though
7 a significant portion of those districts go out into
8 Santa Clarita and into Ventura County. But because we
9 do have a significant portion, we feel like we still are
10 part of the system in those particular areas.

11 As AD chair, I have grown to respect the people
12 of Ventura County and appreciate what they have done and
13 the fact that people that are working hard out there to
14 build a Democratic party and to build a good Assembly
15 and Senate and Congressional program.

16 What I don't appreciate is the way your
17 mapmakers have drawn these current districts as my area
18 in Chatsworth will now be represented by the 37th
19 Assembly District, which will only be one percent of the
20 registered voters in Los Angeles city. It will also be
21 represented by the 17th Senate District which will only
22 have three percent of the registered voters in Los
23 Angeles. And the Congressional District which will
24 remain the same but will have far fewer of the
25 represented voters from the San Fernando Valley portion

1 of that district.

2 What will happen now is that I will -- and I
3 and urban Los Angeles, suburban Los Angeles in
4 Chatsworth, even though we have a few horses out there,
5 we are not the farming community that we find in Ventura
6 County, we do not share any interests with or anything
7 in common with the High Desert area of the 17th Assembly
8 District that we will be a part of.

9 The only thing that we do perhaps is a long
10 look at the Highway 15 that goes out to Las Vegas where
11 our congressman, probably that will be the only thing
12 that he'll be representing in that part of the district.
13 But for the Chatsworth to be linked with the Nevada
14 County border is just simply absurd.

15 And, quite frankly, this plan will go down in
16 history as a flagrant example of gerrymandering to the
17 detriment of the Lauritzen family, Chatsworth in the
18 north San Fernando Valley to Ventura County, to all
19 political parties and to the people of California
20 itself. We hope your mapmakers will throw away the
21 Etch-a-Sketch, get a good map with rivers and valleys
22 and urban areas that they can sketch in where the real
23 people live and come up with a new map that is
24 acceptable to all of us.

25 Thank you.

1 ASSEMBLYMAN CAMPBELL: Mr. Lauritzen, thank you
2 very much.

3 The next speaker I believe is Ruth Hunt.

4 MS. HUNT: Yes, good afternoon, members of the
5 committee. My name is Ruth Hunt with the Ventura County
6 Federation of College Teachers, a member of the
7 Tri-County Labor Federation and a 30-year resident and
8 voter in the Central Coast area.

9 There are many issues of importance to our
10 communities that are negatively impacted by the proposed
11 redistricting plans, and some have been articulately
12 addressed already. In fact, I have here a letter from
13 eight supervisors and councilmembers of Ventura County
14 expressing their support of the objections and
15 suggestions you have heard from people today.

16 MR. CAMPBELL: Ms. Hunt, excuse me for
17 interrupting you. After you are finished, if you would
18 give that to our staff, they'll be sure that we receive
19 a copy before the night is out.

20 MS. HUNT: I was going to say, I'll see to it
21 that your staff gets a copy so that you can read it.

22 As for my comments, as a representative of
23 organized labor in Ventura County, I am here to urge you
24 to take another look at the proposed redistricting plans
25 to seriously consider the community of interest of

1 working class people in our Ventura, Oxnard and Santa
2 Barbara communities.

3 Along the Central Coast there are communities
4 with a high number of working families, most of whom are
5 employed in service jobs, construction, agriculture and
6 tourism, which, of course, is linked so directly to the
7 beauty and preservation of the coastline itself.

8 In Oxnard, Santa Paula, Fillmore, West Ventura,
9 Casitas Springs, Oakview and the lower east side and
10 lower west side of Santa Barbara, disposable income is
11 less, the population is younger, and unionization is
12 higher. These areas obviously share a vital economic
13 community of interest.

14 We in organized labor call upon you to
15 reconsider the proposed plans and to keep those working
16 class communities together or risk diluting the ability
17 of these communities to choose representatives
18 knowledgeable of, and sensitive to, their special needs
19 and issues. Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 MR. CAMPBELL: Thank you, Ms. Hunt.

22 Our next speaker is Kay Felton.

23 MS. FELTON: Hello, I'm Kay Felton from Ojai,
24 California, the most beautiful city in California,
25 making many of you look at me, but the most contagious

1 issue in all of Central California is growth.

2 We in western Ventura County, which includes
3 Ojai, Ventura, believe in slow growth. If we are linked
4 with eastern Ventura County which includes Simi Valley
5 and Thousand Oaks, they are for pro growth. We don't
6 fit in with them at all.

7 We belong with our neighbors in Port Hueneme
8 and Oxnard, and this change can be done so easily as
9 their populations are equivalent. Please, we urge you
10 to redraft the Senate map before it comes to the floor
11 for a vote. Thank you.

12 MR. CAMPBELL: Thank you, Ms. Felton.

13 Sharon Hilbrant is our next speaker.

14 MS. HILBRANT: Good afternoon, chairman
15 Campbell and committee members. My name is Sharon
16 Hilbrant. I'm the first vice chair of Democratic party
17 of Ventura County and member of the redistricting task
18 force.

19 This afternoon, however, I would like to
20 address you as a woman activist, a member of the Women's
21 Commission of Ventura County, the National Women's
22 Political Caucus of Ventura and Planned Parenthood which
23 serves the tri-counties.

24 My concern is that women will be the biggest
25 losers throughout California under the proposed

1 reapportionment plan, such as was suggested by Lyn Shaw.

2 Not just for women who vote, but for women for whom we
3 vote, our legislators.

4 I'm especially horrified by the Senate plan.

5 The new reapportionment, this plan will make it
6 extremely difficult to elect women currently in the
7 State Assembly. In order to have them elected into the
8 Senate, it will take far too much money than we can
9 possibly raise. The number of women in the upper house
10 of the Legislature will be decreased. So you really
11 have to need to think carefully what the long-term
12 effects of your planning will be.

13 In addition, the proposed plan carves out seats
14 for anti-choice candidates, those who are
15 ultraconservative and so-called pro business moderates
16 at the expense of progressive legislators for which
17 California is well-known and whom have served us so
18 well.

19 In particular, I bring your attention to the
20 18th Senate District. It hasn't been a secret that our
21 capable 35th Assembly District member, Hannah-Beth
22 Jackson, a role model for progressive Democratic women
23 legislators, had hoped to run as a candidate in 2002.
24 Well, wonder of wonders. The 18th Senate District
25 through the modern magic of the computer will now be

1 located in Inyo, Kern and San Bernardino counties.

2 Perhaps Hannah-Beth can become a virtual State Senator.

3 Far better to reconsider the proposals that our
4 Ventura County redistricting task force have submitted.
5 We don't want to take a giant step backwards. Please
6 consider your actions carefully. 10 years is a long
7 period of time to pay for poor policy planning. Thank
8 you.

9 (Applause.)

10 MR. CAMPBELL: Ms. Hilbrant, thank you very
11 much.

12 Our next speaker is Margaret, is it Connell?

13 MS. CONNELL: Thank you for the opportunity to
14 speak to you today. I've lived in Santa Barbara County
15 for the last 45 years, and have been active in the
16 community. I served for four terms on the Santa Barbara
17 school board among other activities.

18 Chairman Longville earlier referred to the fact
19 that in your earlier hearings they were hearing
20 differences of opinion so that there was not one answer
21 to the redistricting in different areas. But I'm
22 willing to bet that no one, no one testified that the
23 18th Senate District should be seismically shifted to
24 the Central Valley.

25 For 20 years senator Gary Hart and Senator Jack

1 O'Connell have built a broad-based bipartisan consensus
2 in the 18th district, particularly on environmental
3 issues and coastal protection, but also on women's
4 rights and many social justice issues.

5 The current proposal to move the 19th district
6 up to cover most of Santa Barbara County totally
7 undermines this community of interest that they have
8 built so carefully over the years. By making this a
9 safe Republican district, and the same might be true if
10 it was a safe Democratic district, the motivation to
11 build a bipartisan consensus will be lost.

12 The 18th district perhaps needs some adjustment
13 around the edges, but to use another analogy, it does
14 not have to be lifted up like Dorothy in the Wizard of
15 Oz and plunked down in the Central Valley. This is a
16 bad plan. Please change it.

17 (Applause.)

18 MR. CAMPBELL: Thank you very much,
19 Ms. Connell.

20 Our next speaker is Christine Lyon.

21 MS. LYON: Good afternoon. My name is
22 Christine Lyon. I am here to represent the Santa
23 Barbara Women's Political committee. I am one of the
24 VP's of that committee. We have a 500 like-minded
25 membership of women and men who are very politically

1 active in our community.

2 I'm also the vice president of public affairs
3 for Planned Parenthood in the tri-county area. We have
4 clinics in Ventura, Santa Barbara, Santa Maria and, in
5 addition, San Luis Obispo.

6 Obviously, our Senate District is the 18th
7 Senate District. It's the 35th Assembly District and
8 the 22nd Congressional District.

9 The Santa Barbara Women's Political Committee
10 is a nonpartisan political action committee dedicated to
11 furthering gender equality and feminist values --
12 femininist values. Yes, I'll say it again -- through
13 political and social activism. The Santa Barbara
14 Women's Political Committee was founded more than 10
15 years in an effort to support the election of more women
16 to public office. Believing that women deserve to be at
17 the table when public policy decisions are being made,
18 whether introducing legislation or deciding budget
19 priorities, women can often shift priorities and debate
20 to better serve the women and families of our community.

21 We are very proud to note the success of our
22 prior board members. We have women who are now elected
23 in the California Assembly, the Congress, serving on our
24 Boards of Supervisors, our city council, our school
25 boards, every level of government. Women that we have

1 recruited and worked with in an effort to have
2 representation.

3 We have endorsed both men and women who support
4 our feminist values, Republicans and Democrats, as I
5 said, for all levels of government. The Santa Barbara
6 Women's Political Committee works in coalition with many
7 other organizations throughout the 18th Senatorial
8 District. We work to protect women's reproductive
9 rights, gun control, domestic partnership, violence
10 against women and environmental issues. We are a
11 proactive political community that works together to
12 protect the rights of people in our community.

13 The members of the Santa Barbara Women's
14 Political Committee and the constituents of the 18th
15 Senate District and 35th Assembly District expect
16 representation from legislators whose values and voting
17 record reflect our own. Senator Tom McClintock has
18 consistently voted against everything that we support,
19 and we are devastated by the prospect of having him as
20 our representative.

21 We have strong and very good relationships with
22 Senator O'Connell and Hannah-Beth Jackson, and, of
23 course, we want those kinds of relationships to
24 continue. We work in collaboration with our legislators
25 on the issues that I've mentioned before.

1 I'm here to ask you to take these issues into
2 consideration as well as the interests of the voters and
3 provide us with an opportunity for continued
4 representation that will support our values and our
5 efforts. We want to continue to protect our coastal
6 areas, respect diversity of sexual orientation, uphold
7 the laws that protect access to reproductive choice.

8 We want a representative whose values and
9 concerns reflect those of the constituents in our
10 district. Please leave the 18th Senatorial District
11 intact and let us represent -- let us elect a
12 representative who we can work with and reflects our
13 values. Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank very much
16 Ms. Lyon. Greatly appreciate your comments.

17 I would next expect, I believe, Chris Espinosa.
18 Okay.

19 MR. ESPINOSA: Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and
20 members of the committee. My name is Chris Espinosa,
21 and I represent the Ventura County chapters of the
22 League of United Latin American Citizens.

23 I want to talk about the Senate proposed map
24 today. The current proposal cracks Latino communities
25 of the Central Coast and dilutes our potential political

1 influence. That's why LULAC, countless Latino local
2 elected officials and other civil rights organizations
3 have come out against this plan.

4 A district that unites the working class and
5 Latino areas of Ventura and Santa Barbara counties could
6 be between 35 and 40 percent Latino. This is a large
7 enough bloc of voters to ensure that our Senator listens
8 to our issues and advocates on our behalf. Some day it
9 could even mean a Latino Senator from the Central Coast.

10 Instead, this plan divides us between the
11 proposed 19th Senate District, which would be 21 percent
12 Latino, a 10 percent Latino 23rd Senate District and a
13 15th Senate District that is 10.7 percent Latino. I'm
14 sorry. Yeah. That's right. 10.7 percent Latino.

15 The Latinos on the Central Coast will have no
16 political voice. We wholeheartedly support and thank
17 Senator Polanco for his attempts to change this and call
18 upon every state legislator to fight this plan as the
19 racial gerrymandering that it is.

20 Thanks for hearing me out today, and I hope
21 that you take my words into account because it's really
22 important.

23 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
24 Can't guarantee what the end results are, but I know
25 that we're at least listening here and hopefully we'll

1 see some of it reflected, if not all.

2 And next I believe we have Ms. Susan
3 Maquindang, and please excuse me if I'm terribly
4 mispronouncing your name, ma'am.

5 MS. MAQUINDANG: That's all right. Susan
6 Maquindang. Mr. Chairman and hearing members of the
7 committee, good afternoon.

8 My name is Susan Spiritu Maquindang. I am a
9 member of the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for
10 Fair Redistricting in metropolitan Los Angeles. I am
11 working as executive director of Filipino American
12 Service Group, Incorporated, FASG, a nonprofit
13 community-based agency since 1981 that provides social
14 services to low income and homeless individuals with
15 language and cultural capacity to serve Asian Pacific
16 Islander in Los Angeles County.

17 I am also the chair of Filipino American Voter
18 Involvement Project, FAVIP, which is a nonpartisan voter
19 education outreach project which has chapters
20 nationwide.

21 Mr. Chairman, as it turned out, there are two
22 injustices that you can remedy. Number one, do not
23 divide a coherent and contiguous community of Filipino
24 Americans amongst several Assembly districts. Place all
25 Filipino American voters into the 45th Assembly

1 District.

2 The Filipino American community exists in an
3 arch-shaped network of several geographical communities
4 north of downtown Los Angeles. The community of Eagle
5 Rock, Glassell Park, Atwater, and Silver Lake all
6 contain substantial population of Filipino American
7 voters, perhaps 8,000 to 10,000, as many as that.

8 The Filipino American community is a political
9 invisible to most outsiders. It is invisible because it
10 has been systematically divided into different political
11 districts, whether intentional or accidental. It is
12 always the same. The Filipino American community has
13 been carved up so that it cannot express its political
14 will as single cultural entity.

15 This dismemberment is most visible in the
16 Filipinotown, an area bounded roughly by Long Beach
17 Avenue on the east, 33rd Street on the south, Hooper
18 west and Santa Monica Boulevard freeway on the north.
19 This is a historical center of the Filipino American
20 community and contains a large numbers of voters of
21 Filipino ancestry. It is now divided between 45th and
22 46th Assembly District, thus submerging any unified
23 political expression.

24 Number two, regular a large Filipino American
25 population in North Hollywood and incorporate it into

1 the plan as well. North Hollywood is home to another
2 portion of Filipino American voters. It is separated
3 from the main community by a small portion of the City
4 of Burbank and Universal City. If possible, its
5 inclusion in the 45th district should be considered.

6 We are really asking only for fair play. While
7 current constitutional law forbids the creation of
8 racially uniform districts, it also forbids the
9 conscious dilution of communities which have legitimate
10 geographical existence. Placing all Filipino American
11 voters of central Los Angeles into the 45th district
12 would avoid political dismemberment that has existed to
13 date.

14 Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your time.

15 (Applause.)

16 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much for
17 your time, ma'am. Thanks for coming here. Next I
18 believe we have Mike Anderson from the Kagel Canyon
19 Civic Association. Mr. Anderson, I might just pass on
20 something I just learned, which is I learned it from one
21 of the staff people who was watching the monitor
22 indicated that, I don't know if this is happening with
23 all of us or it's something unique to me. As I'm
24 looking down at the maps as I'm doing right now, that
25 when I do that those people that are watching the

1 monitors, it looks as if my eyes are shut. So I want to
2 let you know I'm not sleeping when I'm looking at the
3 maps. I want to alert you to that.

4 Mr. Anderson, you have the microphone.

5 MR. ANDERSON: Thank you. Actually, you really
6 do have to look at the map to find Kagel Canyon. It's
7 in the northeast San Fernando Valley in the foothills.
8 It's above Sylmar. People might remember Sylmar. We
9 had an earthquake there in 1971.

10 Our problem is the current districting and the
11 proposed districting, we feel, will leave us
12 disenfranchised for another 10 years. To give you an
13 example, if you can get through the maze of voice mail
14 and E-mail, you will probably be greeted by where do you
15 live, where is that and why are you calling us.

16 You have another choice. If you've got a full
17 tank of gas, you can drive through Sunland, Tujunga,
18 Verdugo City, Montrose, La Crescenta, Glendale, La
19 Canada, Flintridge and Altadena and, congratulations,
20 you have now arrive at your local representative's
21 office.

22 We are more impacted by the San Fernando Valley
23 than we are the San Gabriel valley. Our communities of
24 interest and the ones that we identify with or Sylmar
25 and Lakeview Terrace. Our zip code is 91342, which is

1 the Sylmar zip code. Our assessor's office states that
2 we are in the Sylmar area, my neighbor's children go to
3 the Sylmar schools, all of our politicians are a world
4 away from us in Pasadena.

5 We ask you to please reconsider in your
6 districting plans taking us from Assembly District 44 to
7 the 39th, in the Senate District from 21st to the 20th,
8 and Congressional District from the 27th to the 26th so
9 we're not left out and feeling disenfranchised for
10 another 10 years. Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
13 Mr. Anderson.

14 Next also from Kagel Canyon we have Ms. Connie
15 Rodriguez here I believe representing LULAC.

16 MS. RODRIGUEZ: Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman
17 and committee members. Yes, I do represent LULAC,
18 League of United Latin American Citizens in San Fernando
19 Valley, but foremost before LULAC, I'm here because of
20 our living conditions in Kagel Canyon. It's really a
21 quality of life issue for us in the Kagel Canyon area.

22 We just recently had our water tank replaced,
23 and this took it's been almost I think seven years now.
24 That's how long it took. Our water pipes have been
25 there since the 1920's. Rust comes through and the

1 quality of life up in that area is not acceptable to us
2 as taxpayers.

3 If we want to address a problem that we're
4 having, we need to call all the way down to Pasadena and
5 we get the runaround.

6 Kagel Canyon is a diverse community up in the
7 foothills, as Mike Anderson said before I came in. We
8 are recognized by the county recorder as being in Sylmar
9 and by the postmaster, yet when we have any problems in
10 the Kagel Canyon area, we don't call Congressman Schiff
11 or Senator Scott or Assemblywoman Carol Liu. We call
12 Assemblyman Cardenas, Senator Alarcon and Congressman
13 Berman, and they have been very gracious to include us
14 in what's happening in the community that surrounds us
15 that impacts our quality of life.

16 Now, we're here to ask that you would include
17 us in these areas of San Fernando Valley, the 39th
18 district, Assembly District, the 26th Congressional
19 District and the 20th Senate District.

20 When we look down from our mountain down, we
21 look at the San Fernando Valley. We don't see Pasadena.
22 Pasadena has nothing in common. We are totally
23 disenfranchised. As Mike said before me, our children
24 go to the neighborhood schools down in the 39th
25 district, and we are asking that you will include us,

1 include us in with San Fernando Valley districts.

2 Now, I speak as representative of LULAC. And I
3 am asking that you do not divide the 39th Congressional
4 District. We worked very, very hard to finally be where
5 we're at now. I know I've been out there, I do a lot of
6 community volunteer work. I'm out there working in
7 gang-infested areas. I don't get paid to do that. I do
8 that because I care for my community.

9 I'm asking that you would recognize the work
10 that we've done. Kagel Canyon spearheaded the closing
11 of the Locust Canyon dump 20 years ago. We had
12 fundraisers that brought money in to hire attorneys.
13 Locust Canyon is right outside of our backyard. So we
14 do not receive the amenities from it, but we are happy
15 that was closed down, but we were part of closing it
16 down.

17 So I'm going to close with this. It's been a
18 long time and everybody has been here since 1:00 o'clock
19 so I have an excuse for my hairdo and my makeup. I
20 would ask with all seriousness if you would just look at
21 our little community. Our heart is there in the San
22 Fernando Valley. We have respect for Pasadena, it's a
23 beautiful place, but put us where we belong. Thank you
24 very much.

25 (Applause.)

00613

1 (Whereupon, the following proceedings were
2 reported by Leigh Ann Orozco:)

3 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much
4 again, Ms. Rodriquez. We appreciate it.

5 And before I go to my next individual, we are
6 making -- as we are getting toward the end of the
7 hearing, we are making some changes here. I wanted to
8 thank the staff people in the Sacramento office who have
9 been handling some of the technical operations who are
10 leaving the room now. Thank you for your work. And we
11 are having the managers now taking over for -- we are
12 getting to that part of the day where the managers have
13 to continue the last part.

14 So we move now to Mr. Albert Huang from
15 San Marino speaking for APAFR, Asian Pacific Americans
16 for Fair Redistricting. It is for CAPAFR?

17 MR. HUANG: Yes, it is.

18 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Okay. I have a letter
19 missing on the identification on our computer. So
20 please go ahead, sir.

21 MR. HUANG: Thank you very much, Chairman.
22 Good evening. My name is Albert Huang, and I'm speaking
23 today on behalf of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair
24 Redistricting, otherwise known as APAFR of San Diego
25 Valley, which is a part of a statewide coalition called

00614

1 a Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair
2 Redistricting.

3 In the community, I serve as the youth director
4 of LA 8020, otherwise known as Los Angeles Chapter 8020
5 Initiative. The 8020 Initiative is a national
6 nonpartisan political action committee founded primarily
7 by Asian and Pacific Islander Americans dedicated to
8 working for equality and justice for all Americans. Our
9 mission is to focus on political empowerment and civil
10 rights and to build a political voice in unison to win
11 equal opportunity and political parity, and to work
12 together on mutual interests and issues that affect our
13 rights as American citizens.

14 As a representative from LA 8020, I'm proud to
15 be a member of the steering committee of San Diego
16 Valley. Our diverse coalition of Asian Pacific Islander
17 Americans consists of both Republicans and Democrats,
18 city planners, small business owners and various
19 professionals have been meeting since last year to learn
20 not only about redistricting, but also about how our
21 communities can participate in this very important
22 process.

23 To best ensure that mere Assembly district
24 lines represent our community and best allow our
25 communities with shared interests to elect a

00615

1 representative who will be responsive to those common
2 interests and needs, we want to share our concerns about
3 the Assembly district lines as well as State District
4 Senate lines.

5 After reviewing the proposed State Assembly
6 map, we can see that it is a sensible and responsive
7 district that both, number one, holds the four cities of
8 Alhambra, Monterey Park, Rosemead and San Pedro
9 together; and two, is placed squarely in the San Gabriel
10 Valley and fully represents our unique interest.

11 In summary, we applaud your current State
12 Assembly proposal which incorporates that -- the efforts
13 of both Asian American Legal Center and Mexican American
14 Legal Defense and Education Fund, otherwise known as
15 MALDEF.

16 However, the same may not be said for the State
17 Senate map. We ask that you respect the community of
18 interest that holds these four cities together,
19 Alhambra, Monterey Park, Rosemead and San Gabriel
20 together. Thank you very much.

21 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.
22 We appreciate your testimony.

23 And next, I believe, we expect Mr. Al Sheahen.

24 MR. SHEAHEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

25 I'm Al Sheahen, a resident of Sherman Oaks, and

00616

1 I agree with virtually everybody who has spoken this
2 afternoon. I think it could all be summed up by saying
3 all voters in a city or community should be placed in
4 the same district.

5 In looking at the map that the Daily News
6 presented, For example, if you live in Van Nuys
7 currently you might be in the 39th, 40th or 43rd
8 Assembly district. If you live in North Hollywood, you
9 might be in the 39th, 42nd or 43rd District. If you
10 live in Simi Valley, you could be in the 37th or 38th
11 District. In Sherman Oaks, you might be in the 40th,
12 41st or 42nd Assembly district. In Glendale, in Toluca
13 Lake, in Sun Valley and in the Senate, you have -- in
14 Studio City, you could be in the 21st or 23rd. If you
15 live in Sherman Oaks, you would be in the 21st or 23rd.
16 If you live in Van Nuys, you could be in the 20th or
17 21st.

18 This is not democracy, in my opinion. I think
19 it is no wonder that people are turned off by politics.
20 It's no wonder that only 51 percent voted in the last
21 election last year, and it is no wonder that people have
22 no idea what district they are in or who their
23 representative is, and then every ten years even if they
24 do know it, it changes.

25 So, I'll be very brief. Once again, I agree

00617

1 with most of the speakers, and I think the whole
2 afternoon can be summed up by saying that I urge all of
3 you to redraw the lines so that all voters in a city or
4 community who share common interests be placed in the
5 same district. Thank you.

6 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
7 sir. We appreciate your comments, Mr. Sheahen.

8 And next I have Michelle Sa-fran. Sah-fran,
9 excuse me.

10 MS. SAHFRAN: Hello. My name is Michelle
11 Sahfran. I'm from the Sunland-Tujunga community. I am
12 a member of several groups of which I would like to let
13 you know I am an important member, an activist, in my
14 community. I am a Sunland-Tujunga school teacher, and a
15 PTA lifeline between the parents and teachers in the
16 Sunland-Tujunga school I work at. I am a member of a
17 Sunland-Tujunga neighborhood council. I am a lifelong
18 Democrat and usually vote Democrat, but right now I
19 don't feel like my interests are being protected, though
20 I know you are trying to do the best you can. And I'm
21 also a member of BPW, which is a businesswoman slash
22 feminist group.

23 I feel very strongly as to both Republicans and
24 Democrats in my area that we are being gerrymandered
25 again and again and again. This is just the latest

00618

1 gerrymandering -- political gerrymandering of Sunland-
2 Tujunga. We are a hillside community. We are in
3 Los Angeles. We have nothing to do with Santa Clarita.
4 I'm sorry to say, but Santa Clarita has nothing to do
5 with us, though it's a lovely place to be. And we are
6 part of the hillside and yet we are being put with the
7 flatlands of Los Angeles.

8 We have constant problems with city services
9 because city services don't understand that we have rain
10 damage in our straights because we don't have gutters,
11 and it goes on and on, because people do not understand
12 the specific needs of hillside communities.

13 Our current representatives, who are all now
14 Democrats, and who did not used to be all Democrats but
15 were Republicans when I moved to Sunland-Tujunga eight
16 years ago -- eight years ago, sorry. How do I say it?
17 They want to represent our interests. Finally, finally,
18 finally we are getting Democratic representatives who
19 want to represent hillside interests, and now they are
20 being taken away. And that I think is kind of
21 undemocratic, even though I'm with the Democratic party.

22 Now, just to tell you, we have Congressman Adam
23 Schiff in the 28th, and that's being changed to Brad
24 Sherman who is in the San Fernando valley. Again,
25 that's not the hillside area, but that includes us.

00619

1 Our State Senator is Jack Scott. That's being
2 changed to Tom McClintock who represents Ventura County.
3 We are in Los Angeles. He doesn't know our interests,
4 and I hate to say it, but we are a somewhat more
5 Democratic area and now we are being put in a highly
6 Republican area. And we do have State Assembly in
7 Carol Liu. I have been told by some people here that
8 she is our representative. Other people are saying
9 stories from her -- Am I supposed to hurry up?

10 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: No, no. Just ignore
11 that sound. We are all trying to figure out what it is,
12 too. Just ignore it.

13 MS. SAHFRAN: All right. Anyhow -- Sorry. I
14 find that we are losing all of our representatives that
15 we have worked so hard to get using the democratic
16 process. I can't tell you how hard it's been to get
17 representatives who really want to help the hillside.
18 I want you to understand that. And -- So we want these
19 people back.

20 And what are these hillside communities? Maybe
21 this is something that you could do that would be really
22 super helpful. These are the communities that really
23 should be put together, in my estimation, looking at the
24 map. Okay. They are Sunland-Tujunga, Shadow Hills,
25 Lake Uтары, Granada Hills, Chatsworth, Mission Hills,

00620

1 Del Mar and Cable Canyon. These communities have never
2 been put together, and they have a right to work
3 together to better the hillsides.

4 And why do we need to better the hillsides?
5 Because developers are coming in. They are filling up
6 our canyons, and what was once our right to enjoy nature
7 is becoming a right for developers to continue to
8 develop and fill in our canyons with landfills. And
9 that has happened with the Premier development that is
10 giving the people below it constant landslides onto
11 their streets and water seepage onto our streets.

12 Okay. I want to say I know you are trying to
13 do the best you can, but your map details are really
14 confusing and the people here do not understand who
15 their representatives are. Everything is a guess. And
16 I thank these people here for trying to guess their very
17 best. And I would like to say that I think you need to
18 talk to the Sunland-Tujunga council and have someone
19 exactly say where we are going to be. And if you are
20 splitting up Sunland-Tujunga, which has always been
21 together, um, what are the reasons why?

22 I would like our current representatives, this
23 is Jack Scott, Adam Schiff and Carol Liu, is because
24 they have committed themselves to improving the rim of
25 the Valley Trail, which is an asset to our community.

00621

1 The new people you are putting with them have made
2 absolutely no commitment and don't understand our
3 interests. Maybe they would want to. But you know
4 what? It is an unknown.

5 I think we need to have more of our
6 representatives and not people we don't know. So,
7 I think that's probably it.

8 In discussing this redistricting with my
9 neighborhood council, I just would like to say we're
10 Democrats and Republicans working together to improve
11 our community. The feeling is most people do not like
12 redistricting. The reason is because we are losing our
13 representatives that we have worked very hard to get.
14 And these representatives are protecting our interests,
15 to protect our hillsides from developers. It is not the
16 development is bad, but to do it so that we don't fill
17 in canyons, but preserve our canyons and hillsides.

18 And the other thing which is extremely
19 important is that hillsides are not highly developed
20 areas. They are semi-rural. What does that mean? That
21 means there is open space. It is like partly cowboy
22 country. We have a lot of horse stalls. We have people
23 who go up in our mountains. We love our mountains. How
24 can I say it? It is beautiful to live where we are. It
25 is not a congested area.

00622

1 We want that open space, and these
2 representatives, Adam Schiff, Jack Scott and Carol Liu
3 are all committed to this. And if you give us other
4 people that are not committed to this, you are saying we
5 don't want to -- well, you're partially saying we don't
6 have a commitment to preserve the hillsides and to
7 preserve the wide open spaces, God's country, in our
8 hillsides. And thank you very much for listening.

9 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
10 Ms. Sahfran.

11 And for those who were wondering what the noise
12 was, I'm told by staff they think that noise was that we
13 lost one of our remote sites, which reminds me of the
14 movie Fail Safe. I hope it is not quite that bad. If
15 you can remember the President telling the American
16 Ambassador in Moscow that when everyone heard that
17 noise, it would be the American Ambassador in Moscow
18 melting.

19 In any event, we, I believe, have still one
20 more person from this location.

21 Is Patricia Costello there?

22 MS. COSTELLO: Hi. My name is Patricia
23 Costello, and I live in Santa Barbara County. I work at
24 the Goleta Union School District, and I'm a strong union
25 activist with our school association, California School

00623

1 Employees Association.

2 I strongly oppose redistricting Santa Barbara
3 and Ventura County and placing them in three different
4 Senate districts. We are best served by keeping the
5 unity of the central coast.

6 My concerns are as a union activist and a
7 resident of an environmentally sensitive area. By
8 placing our district into District 19, our voice will be
9 diluted. District 19 is diametrically in opposition to
10 the central coast needs. Our union voice would be
11 eradicated completely.

12 Currently, SD 19 representatives opposed 100
13 percent of labor-friendly bills. Our coastal
14 environment would suffer. With the coastal environment
15 suffering, our tourist industry would suffer. Our clean
16 ocean and our beautiful coastline can be compromised by
17 a rancher-friendly representative. I just wanted to say
18 that speaking for my brothers and sisters of the central
19 coast, I strongly urge you to leave our coastal
20 community intact.

21 Thank you very much.

22 CHAIRPERSON LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,
23 Ms. Costello. We appreciate again your taking the time
24 to be here.

25 And again, we have -- I believe this is all the

00624

1 folks we have at remote sites. I would ask if there is
2 anyone at the remote sites who has another witness
3 wishing to testify, that they'd step up to the
4 microphone and say something right now, which will
5 call -- automatically call the system to your attention
6 and they'll focus on you.

7 So if I don't hear anybody out there, I'm
8 assuming we have all the witnesses from remote sites.
9 And we are about to check if we have any additional
10 witnesses in Sacramento.

11 I'll just ask: Did Mr. Jacobsen, Mr. Clemenens
12 or Mr. Price, any of them show up again? I don't see
13 them in the room. So I'm assuming that they were unable
14 to stay long.

15 Thank you, everyone. I realize that many
16 people have disconnected, but thank you everyone for
17 your participation. I can't tell you how much we
18 appreciate your being willing to participate in the
19 process. I know many people who have spoken today are
20 very frustrated. I understand that. I appreciate -- I
21 have been on the other end of such things myself, and I
22 know it is very, very frustrating.

23 I can only tell you we are in fact listening
24 to what you are saying, and I hope that much of what has
25 been heard today will have an impact on the final lines

00625

1 that will be worked out by the conference committee over
2 the next week or so.

3 And thank you again very much for your
4 participation in the process.

5 With that, I'm going to thank our folks who
6 have been working on the crews. I don't have an
7 absolutely complete list I know, because I didn't have
8 the names of the folks who left a couple of minutes ago,
9 but I do know down in Harbor College we have Dana Shaw,
10 at LA Valley College, Lu Albert and staff, at Rancho
11 Santiago Community College, Marrtiza Morrow and
12 Joe Pasino -- Pacino. I'm not sure which it is. In San
13 Marino Valley College, Paul Rubalcaba and staff. At
14 San Diego Community College district, Damon Shamu and
15 Don Bertram. And we also want to thank at the
16 Government Relations Department of California Community
17 Colleges Chancellor's Offices, Henry Burnett and
18 Glen Padayachee. And in Sacramento, technicians include
19 Fred Stetler, Don Boehret, Dana Badley and Jeff Weigt.
20 And there have been a number of other individuals
21 helping. I want to thank the committee staff, the
22 minority consultants, the staffs for the various members
23 who assisted in different offices, including my own
24 staff out in the San Bernardino office, and I know
25 others in other offices, and the Speakers Office of

00626

1 Special Services.

2 And with that -- Office of Member Services,
3 excuse me. With that, I believe we are ready to
4 adjourn.

5 Thank you, ladies and gentlemen. We are
6 adjourned.

7 (The proceedings were adjourned at 5:59 p.m.)

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

